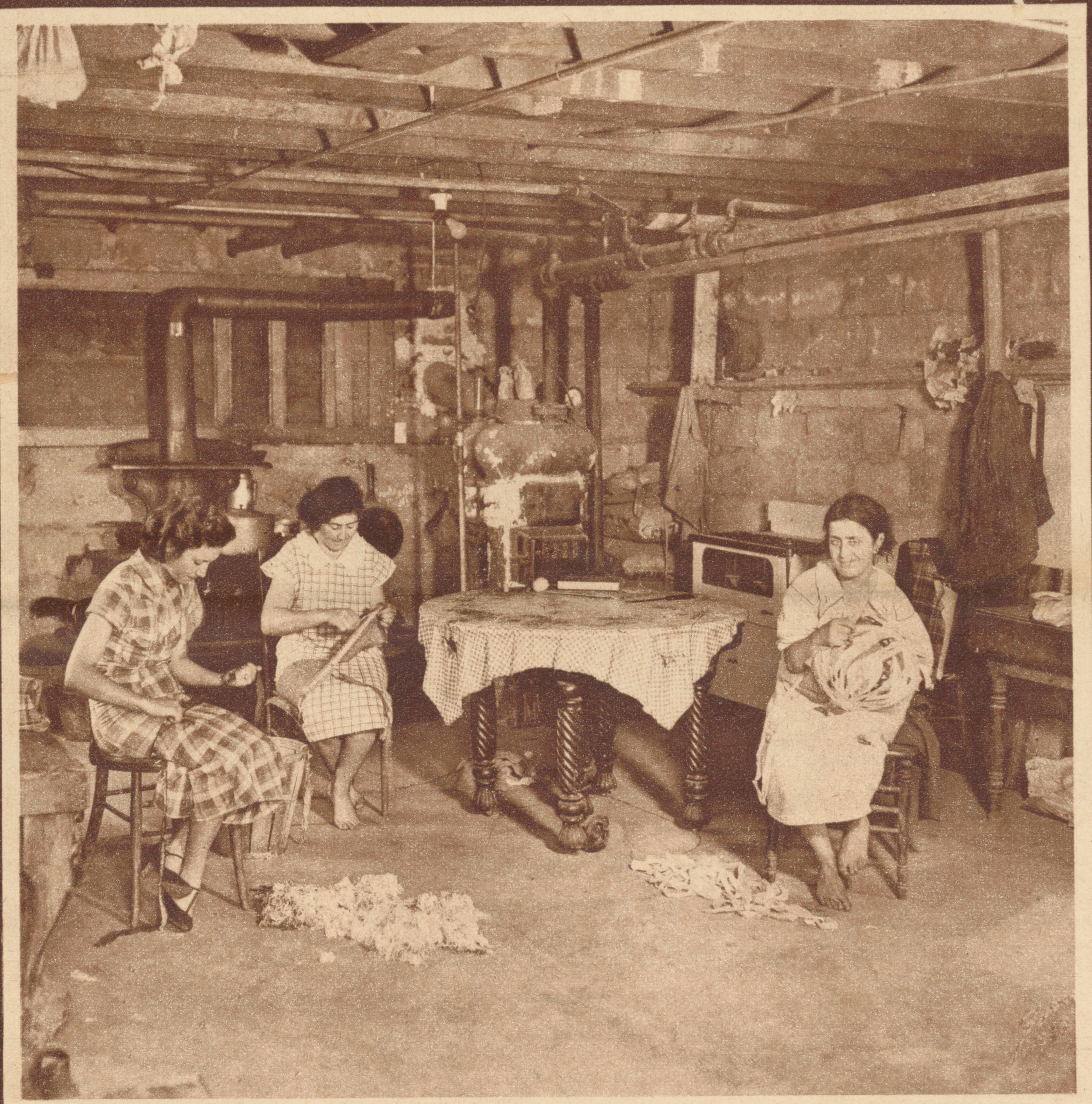
We the People



THREE CENTS AN HOUR

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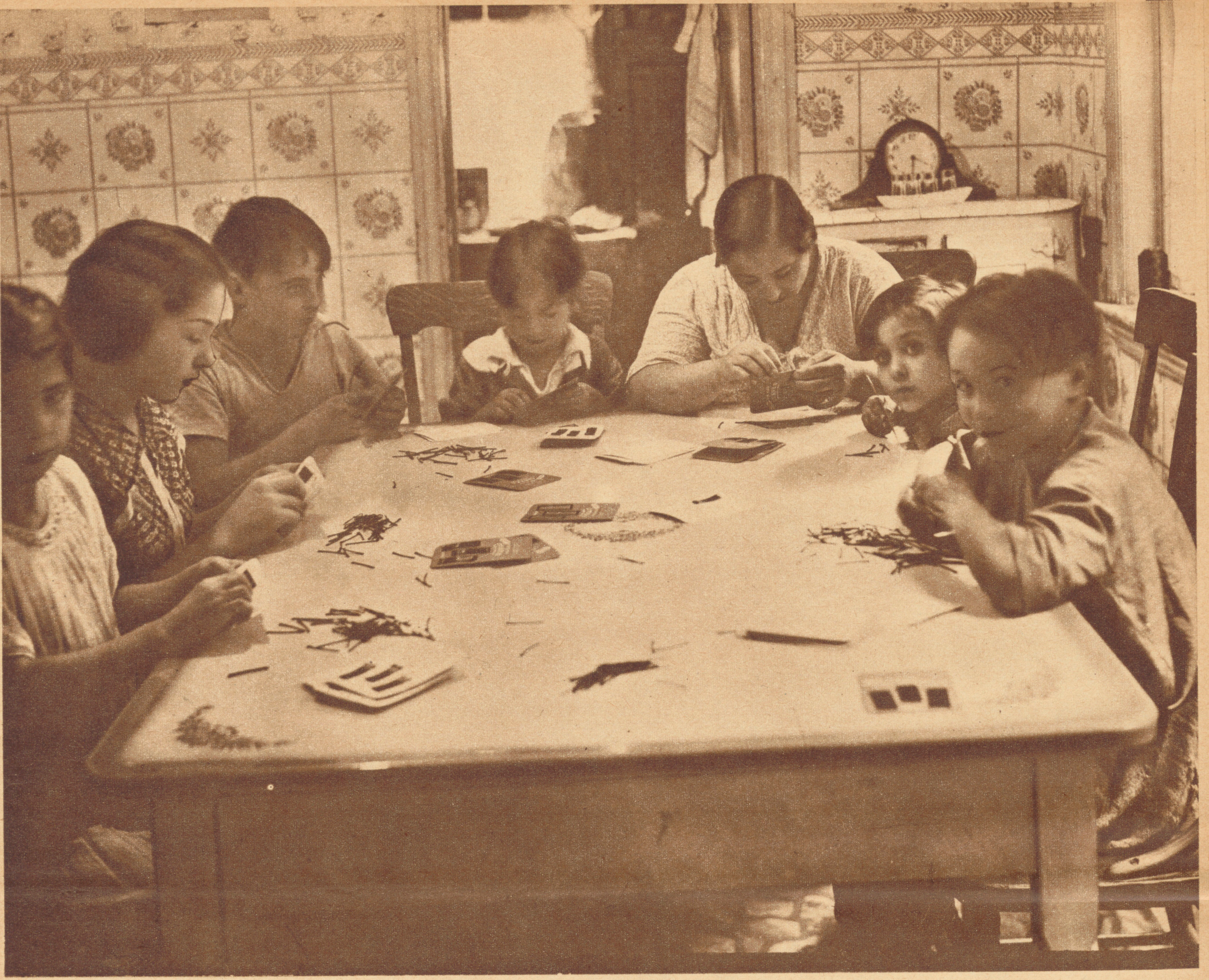
NAILING DOWN THE LABOR PLANKS

THE NEW NEW DEAL SENATORS

December 2, 1936 Volume 1, No. 20 Price 10c



THREE CENTS AN HOUR

A SHORT CATECHISM OF PENNSYLVANIA'S SWEATSHOP INDUSTRIES

WHO are the people in this picture?

A.—The children and their mother are citizens of the great and beautiful Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, of which all its citizens should be proud.

Q.—What are they doing?

A.—They are carding safety pins and bobby pins.

Q.—Why are they doing that?

A.—They are doing it to earn a living.

Q.—Do they make a good living?

A.—Oh, they make a wonderful living. If their fingers are nimble, they will make about three cents an hour. As you see, there are seven of them altogether. If all of them work hard eight hours a day, they will have $1.68 when the day is done.

Q.—Are the children working too? I thought perhaps they were doing it for fun. Aren't young children like these prohibited from working in Pennsylvania?

A.—Our great State of Pennsylvania does prohibit children from working. But you see, these are working for sweatshops. They are doing what is called "industrial homework." It is very difficult indeed for the State to keep check on the industrial homeworkers.

Q.—Who hires these people?

A.—Many of them work in different industries. Some pick rags. Others sew on baby garments, or knit baby booties. Others knit sweaters. There are dozens of different things that they do.

Q.—Do people do work like this everywhere?

A.—Not everywhere. In New York State, for instance, there is a law against sweatshops. So many New York State firms, as well as Pennsylvania firms, use the citizens of our great and free and beautiful Commonwealth to perform these tasks at three cents an hour.

Q.—But why do they pay them so little? Three cents an hour doesn't seem like much money to me.

A.—That is because you do not understand the Iron Law of Competition. These people are not very rich, nor do they belong to labor unions. They have to get work somewhere, so they take this work and take what pay is offered.

Q.—But why don't they get more pay? Can't their employers pay more?

A.—You don't understand. Why, at these wages we can undercut competitors in even such places as Puerto Rico, where lazy people would rather lie in the sun than work for three cents an hour.

Q.—But why don't they use machines to do the work instead?

A.—It costs money to build a machine. Flesh and blood is cheaper. There is always plenty of flesh and blood. Besides, you have to feed machines, but flesh and blood will somehow feed itself on three cents an hour.

Q.—Why hasn't something been done about it?

A.—Because the law-makers who used to make our laws were afraid that they would be taking away these people's dearest liberties if they denied to their employers the right to work them at three cents an hour.

Q.—Can't something be done about it?

A.—Yes. The Democratic Party in 1934 promised to outlaw the sweatshop if it were elected to power.

Q.—Well?

A.—The Democratic Party is in power in Pennsylvania today. If it keeps its pledge it will outlaw the sweatshop by prohibiting industrial homework in Pennsylvania.

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NAILING DOWN the LABOR PLANKS

PLANS BEING MADE FOR NEW LABOR LEGISLATION

TO CARRY OUT PLEDGES MADE IN 1934 CAMPAIGN

SECRETARY OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY RALPH M. BASHORE
Working on the liberal labor legislation to be introduced in the next Legislature

AT his big desk in Room 304, South Office Building, Secretary of Labor and Industry Ralph M. Bashore, heavy-set, burr-voiced Pottsville lawyer, horse-fancier and Secretary of the Democratic State Committee, is almost on eye-level with the pediment of the forum of the Educational Building, whereon are carved names of noted Pennsylvania authors, poets, scientists.

Last week as tentative drafts of bills swirled across his desk, Secretary Bashore had little time to gaze out on the names of illustrious but deceased Pennsylvanians. If ever he did take time out for such space-gazing, Mr. Bashore could reflect that the names were of persons who had freed and enlightened Pennsylvania thought. His job was to help free living Pennsylvanians from what the Democratic Platform of 1934 called "economic serfdom."

The outlines for bills which piled on his desk were measures to carry out the Democratic Party's labor pledges of 1934.

Some of these pledges have been redeemed in part. Others of them are two years overdue.

They are overdue because in the regular session of 1935 and the special session of 1936, bills which were passed in the House met a solid barrier of Old Guardsmen in the Senate. Sending a bill into the Old Guard Senate was like sending a condemned man into a death house filled with lethal gas. Only the hardiest survived. Most died.

Said the Democratic Platform of 1934, which it is the Party's pledge to redeem at the next session of Legislature, in which it controls both House and Senate:

THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM ON LABOR LEGISLATION

In 1934 the Democratic Party laid down a brief, clear platform. It pledged certain legislation. The Republican controlled Senate sneered at the mandate given by the people in 1934 and treated those pledges as scraps of paper. This year the Democratic Party was swept into power in all legislative and executive branches of the government. The pledges of 1934 still hold good—and they can be fulfilled today. Here are the eight planks devoted to labor legislation:

First: A job for the man who wants to work.

Second: Abolition of child labor.

Third: Social justice through the regulation of hours of labor, especially for women.

Fourth: A minimum wage, fair to both industry and labor.

Fifth: Elimination of industrial police and privately paid deputy sheriffs.

Sixth: Absolute right of collective bargaining and unionization of labor.

Seventh: Individual economic security through adequate old age pensions, unemployment, reserves, adequate emergency relief, and a stronger and more comprehensive workmen's compensation law.

Eighth: Outlawing of sweatshops.

"The Democratic Party is the exponent of modern liberalism. Under the leadership of our President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, it is conscious of the fundamentals underlying our changing economic, social and political systems. It is mindful of the necessity for readjustment of our social institutions, without ignoring traditions or the results of past experience.

"Under Democratic rule and guidance, we seek the elimination of industrial serfdom; certainty and continuity of employment and the abolition of fear of hunger and privation.

"The improvement of our economic system for the common good is a Democratic aim.

"Human rights must take precedence over property rights and social justice for the masses must be paramount to the greed of special interests.

"The Democratic Party asks a mandate from the people of this State to carry out its purpose and principles, believing thereon depends the progress, security and welfare of our people. These accomplishments depend upon the Democratic Party, sincere in its advocacy of social, humanitarian and progressive legislation."

If the democratic system is accepted as a premise, then the will of the people as expressed in popular elections must be followed by action that establishes that will.

A sidelight on the American political scene is that Americans usually vote against, not for. But the election of November 3 was admittedly both a for and against vote: for the President

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and for the Roosevelt program of decency for the common man; and against the doctrine and principles of the Republican Party.

In Pennsylvania there was also this for and against vote, Pennsylvania voted for what the Democratic Party has tried to do since it won the Governorship, a U. S. Senatorial seat, and the House in the General Assembly. It voted against the McClures, the Coynes, the Saluses and the Clarks; and it voted against the program of mass massacre with which these gentlemen slaughtered the liberal bills that came up to them from the House during the 1935 regular and the 1936 special session.

Many of these bills were part of the labor legislation program for which the State Federation of Labor, headed by its President, John A. Phillips, had fought. It was the liberal program which the Democratic Party had backed.

Liberal labor legislation is good business. It is good democracy. For it becomes obvious to any studious mind that the Communism and Fascism controlling Europe today are an expression through dictatorship of either the workers' dissatisfaction with intolerable conditions, or a forceful imposition of order on the disorder caused by the workers' dissatisfaction with intolerable conditions.

The November election, if it means anything, means that the democratic system has given the "Go" signal to liberal labor legislation.

Most of the labor planks in the 1934 Democratic platform were covered by legislation which was killed by the Senate. Those who voted against the legislation were swept from power. Today the House, the Senate and the Governor have an irrefutable mandate to put liberal labor legislation on the statute books.

Eight planks of the 1934 platform are devoted to labor legislation (see Col. 2, Page 3). Herewith a report on how some of those pledges have been met, tentative plans for meeting others.

Child Labor. At the Third Annual Conference of Labor Secretaries called by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins from November 9-11, Mr. Bashore, representing the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, was awarded one of two Child Labor Ribbons, indicating that Pennsylvania has one of the best Child Labor Laws in the nation. The Pennsylvania law prohibits any child under 14 years of age from being employed, save on farms and in chores around the home. It prohibits all children under 16 (save newsboys) from working before 7 a. m. or after 7 p. m., and requires that hours spent in school must be computed as part of the total hours per week which are allowed under the Act.

Children under 18 are limited to 44-hours a 6-day week, save messenger boys for telegraph companies where only one messenger is employed. It provides that continuous working hours must not exceed five without an interruption for lunch.

Said Secretary Bashore: "There may be a few clarifying amendments to the Act. But the steps we have taken are advanced ones in child labor legislation. However, I must warn employers in the strongest terms that we have made a special effort to acquaint people with the provisions of the Child Labor Law. So far we have been reasonable with prosecutions because the Act is new. But we cannot tolerate any further violations and will enforce its terms strictly."

Minimum Hours. "We have a new Act reducing the hours of women's employment to 54," said Secretary Bashore. "It is a question whether we can get through a bill conforming to the recommendations of the Conference of Labor Secretaries for a 40-hour week, 5 days a week. But I contemplate that a bill covering these provisions will be introduced.

"I was a member of the committee which drafted the Conference's report on minimum hours, which said: 'With increased industrial activity, the value of manufactured products, the volume of retail sales, and the income from the service branches of industry have all increased in greater proportion than have employment and pay rolls. Therefore, we believe even more strongly than we did a year ago that the adoption of a schedule of not more than 40 hours a week by State law in all States will promote the welfare of the Nation. The increase in man-hour production in recent decades has released vast numbers of employes who are not being absorbed in normal industrial and economic processes. Shortened hours have in the past been regarded largely as welfare legislation, but there is a rapidly growing consciousness, not only in this country but all over the world that a close relationship exists between efficiency and the hours and earnings of the working population. This principle has been demonstrated by the practices of progressive employers in various branches or industry over a period of years.' "

Sweatshops. In thousands of pitiful homes that have been turned into workshops in this State thousands of women and children toil for miserable pittances in a shameless exploitation of unprotected labor by unscrupulous and greedy employers.

JOHN A. PHILLIPS

State Labor Leader, who backs liberal labor legislation

The beautiful hand-knitted dress bought for from $50 to $150 in many an exclusive atelier is stitched by fingers which weave through the intricate pattern of hand-knitting—at a wage of about 6c an hour. Out of this wage will be paid the costs which factory management ordinarily assesses against itself—the costs of lighting, heating, floor rent.

Pennsylvania is still shamed by being one of the States where the sweatshop employer may operate. Especially since New York State passed its anti-sweatshop law has this shameful business concentrated in Pennsylvania.

More than 600 firms, taking advantage of the desperate need of the workers, pay wages too low to support life. This means nothing more or less than that sweatshops must be subsidized by the taxpayers; for a sweatshop employes must get extra help from emergency relief, or welfare contributions. Here are a few sample cases:

Mrs. K. has worked for 10 years for one firm, earning 2½c per hour, knitting baby sacques at $1 per dozen, for which she was formerly paid $1.50 per dozen. The retail price of the sacque is 50c each.

Mrs. K. is an aged widow who was discharged because of her age after serving for 24 years in a shoe factory. Now she tears and sews rags for a carpet concern to earn the 70 cents per week necessary for an insurance policy which will bury her. "They won't bury you for less than $500," she says. Even when she worked inside the factory she took the rags home and worked on them, sometimes until four o'clock in the morning. Now she can get no other work and her earnings are barely $1 per week. A relief grant supplements these miserable earnings.

Mrs. M., whose husband is an unemployed miner, embroiders collars at $1.88 per dozen. To earn 13 cents per hour (which is high for sweatshop labor), she must work from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. She says "her back is so tired at the end of the day she can hardly straighten up." She must go to a neighboring town by bus for the work.

Those are merely a few cases, which could be multiplied thousands of times in Pennsylvania. Parcel post makes it easy to deliver material to the humblest of workers who slave alone, silent, isolated, unorganized, without a voice in their rates of remuneration—and of course, none in their hours of labor.

In a recent session a sweatshop bill was killed by the Senate. Pennsylvania still has workers whose standards are so low that employers in Puerto Rico have complained that they cannot compete with our Pennsylvania labor, even though they have cheap island labor.

Said the Conference on Labor Legislation's committee report on industrial homework:

"The more you know about industrial homework, the more certain you are that complete elimination is what you ought to go after. You are certain of that, both because of the very bad conditions which you find as you attempt to control it, and because of the difficulties that are inherent in the administration of a statute for the control of homework.

"We know that when we issue a certificate to a home worker to do a certain piece of work herself, that when she is told to get it back the next morning she lets her children help, or calls in the neighbors, regardless of the conditions on her certificate which make such assistance illegal, and we know that it would take a staff of inspectors larger than any of the states, or the Federal Government could support, to see that during the busy season these things don't happen.

"Therefore, your committee is definitely in favor of prohibiting industrial homework. It recognizes that prohibition means continued checking up on the sources of homework which are with us constantly because homework does mean that the manufacturer shifts a good deal of his cost and can take advantage of the worker's inability to maintain her equality with factory standards."

Said Secretary Bashore: "We will introduce a bill outlawing industrial homework in Pennsylvania."

Deputy Sheriffs. Though the 1935 session of Legislature outlawed industrial police, it being one of the earliest bills Governor Earle signed, the irresponsible use of deputy sheriffs in industrial disputes still remains a problem. Labor will no doubt demand some controlling legislation.

Allied with this is another problem to which Legislature should give consideration. That is the problem of strike-breaking private detective agencies, and the sale of teargas and other armaments of industrial warfare to private firms for strike-breaking purposes. The LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee of the U. S. Senate has already made startling and sordid revelations in this field. There is a possibility of Federal legislation, which should be supplemented by effective State regulations.

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Collective Bargaining. Secretary Bashore believes that the administration will again introduce a bill to outlaw company unions. Moreover, he is convinced that amendments to the Administrative Code will be made so that the Department of Labor and Industry can compel collective bargaining. It is intended to give the Mediation Bureau authority to compel meditation—and if mediation fails, to make arbitration.

Minimum Wages. "When the Supreme Court declared the New York minimum wage law unconstitutional," says Mr. Bashore, "it left the minimum wage question in great confusion. We do not know what type of minimum wage law can be introduced."

A study is being made by New York State and by a committee of the National Conference on Labor Legislation. The committee says: "In light of recent studies of wages paid in various parts of the United States, your committee concludes that the need for mandatory minimum-wage legislation to prevent the payment of sweatshop wages is as urgent as ever. Indeed, so urgent is this need that the committee recommends that every effort be exerted by the States and the Federal Government to draft minimum-wage legislation which will conform to the present limitations imposed by the Constitution. Inasmuch as such legislation in the past has been declared unconstitutional the committee urges that the conference also endorse the proposal that the Federal Constitution be amended so as to permit minimum-wage and other social legislation. In the hope that there may be modification of the Constitution in the future to permit without question government regulation of wages, thought should be given to the principles which should be incorporated in a model minimum-wage law within the terms of this constitutional amendment."

Says Mr. Bashore: "I agree with that report. If we cannot have minimum wages under the Constitution, I believe we should amend the Constitution."

Minimum wage laws will probably be applied first to women and children. Many labor leaders fear that a minimum-wage law will make the minimum-wage the maximum wage. Under the NRA, however, wages generally increased. And when NRA was declared unconstitutional, wages went into a tailspin, and hours of work were lengthened, a study made by the American Federation of Labor showed.

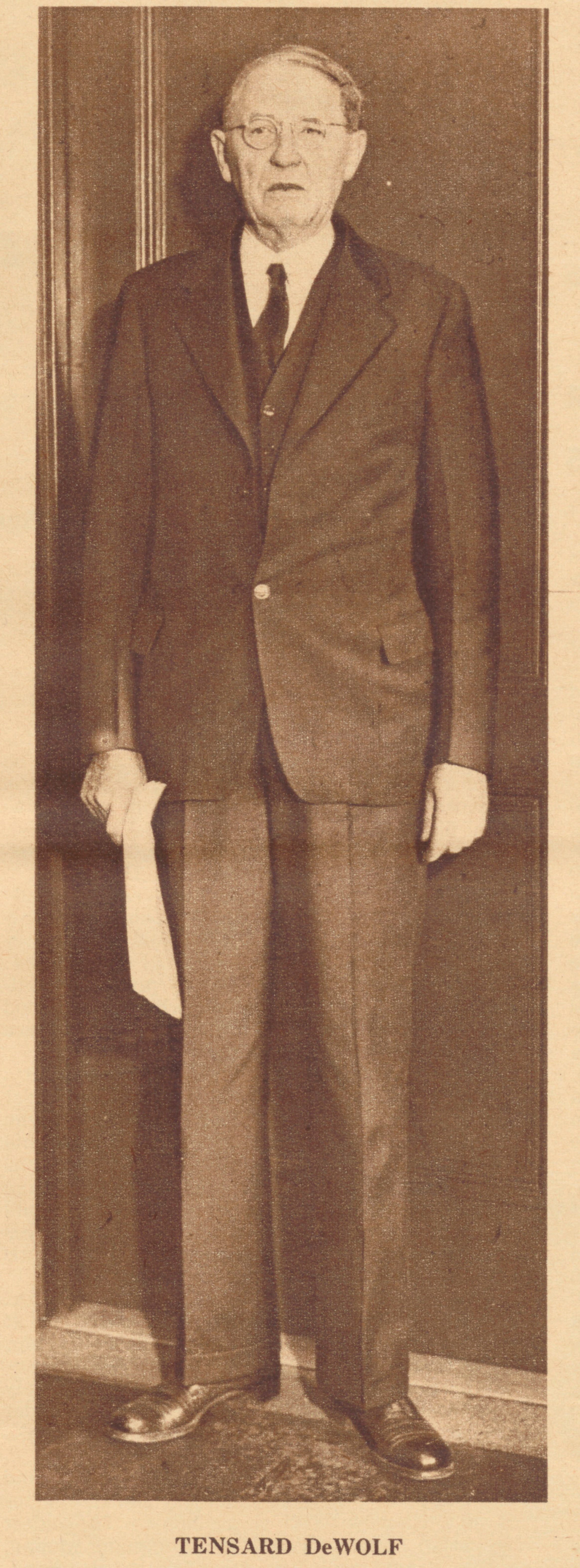
(In Ohio last week three Federal Court judges upheld Ohio's minimum-wage law, in the face of the U. S. Supreme Court's ruling on the New York law. Federal Circuit Judge Florence Allen and Federal District Judges Robert Nevin and Mell G. Underwood ruled that Ohio's law was "distinguishable" from the New York act. The decision said that the Ohio wage was based on "the value of service or class of service rendered." The New York law was based on wages "sufficient to meet the minimum cost of living necessary for health." In the Ohio decision the judges said the "court did not feel bound to follow the construction placed upon the statutes of any other States by the courts of such States." The New York law had first been invalidated by the New York Court of Appeals. The Ohio law applies only to women and minors, of whom it affects about 42,000.)

Unemployment Insurance, a part of the great Social Security Bill of the Federal Government, requires State legislation to make it effective. Governor Earle has already called a Special It is almost certain that within a short time now a Social Security Bill will be passed—a bill affecting more than 2,500,000 employes and some 300,000 employers. The State bill on unemployment compensation will cover employers of one person up. The bill will be administered in the same manner as the present Compensation Act, with referees to handle such cases as require them. The present Employment Bureau of the Department of Labor and Industry, headed by Tensard DeWolf, will have a division of employment and an unemployment division. Mr. DeWolf, who also heads the Research and Statistics Bureau, has had a hand in writing many of the labor bills which will be introduced during the regular session.

Workmen's Compensation. A new Workmen's Compensation bill will be introduced again this session, containing the amendments presented in the bill that was killed by the Senate in 1935. Secretary Bashore, his compensation officers and Mr. DeWolf, together with legal experts, are now engaged in going over this bill. In essence it will be the same as House Bill 1199, the bill killed in 1935, which was an Administration measure then, and will be again in the approaching session.

The principal changes will be to increase the compensation rates; and to assess the costs of compensation against the employers as a legitimate operating cost of industry. In this connection, what P. W. Litchfield, president of Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, says of unemployment insurance and old age pensions is equally applicable to Workmen's Compensation. Says Mr. Litchfield:

"Individual companies which must sell their products on a competitive price basis should not be expected to act alone, for if they do they handicap themselves as against competitors who do not. Actually and sensibly, unemployment insurance as well as old age pensions should be included in the cost of production, just as wages, interest, depreciation and such items as fire and theft insurance. Neither a single company nor industry can, however, carry the burden alone.



TENSARD DeWOLF
Employment Bureau Director, who is helping draft labor legislation

"Business," Mr. Litchfield continues, "has not shown those qualities of statesmanship which should have led it to work out a technique for dealing with the situation in advance of political action. Too many have taken the same attitude toward social security legislation as they took not so many years ago toward workmen's compensation insurance. Compensation insurance covering the liability of employers for their employes' safety is today a matter of course. It has worked to the advantage of industry and labor alike."

Unfortunately many Pennsylvania businessmen have not taken such a practical stand as Mr. Litchfield.

Compensation rates will be generally upped. Most important features here are that widows will get compensation for life, or until they remarry, in fatal accident cases. For injured minors, compensation will be based upon the wages they could have earned after they come of age, instead of on their earning power as minors.

State Workmen's Insurance Fund. "A study is being made," says Mr. Bashore, "of making the State Workmen's Compensation Fund a monopoly. That would mean that all Workmen's Compensation insurance would be written by the State Fund—excepting that approved firms could still act as self-insurers. Personally, I favor such a move, but I believe that a careful study should be made before any decision is reached. Ohio and several other States have such a provision."

Occupational Diseases. For a year a committee of lawyers, doctors and laymen has been studying the subject of an occupational disease bill. At the committee's last meeting a sub-committee was appointed to draft an occupational disease bill. The committee will meet in Harrisburg, December 8, to consider the draft. It cannot be anticipated whether the committee will draft a scheduled act or an unlimited act. The Conference on Labor Legislation recommends an unlimited act.

"There is still much to learn about occupational diseases," says Mr. Bashore. "We need more definite knowledge than we have at present to decide whether it is wise to adopt an unlimited act. It has been suggested that a scheduled act give the Department of Health power to make recommendations to the Department of Labor and Industry when, in the opinion of the Health Department, a certain condition becomes an occupational disease."

Other Bills. The Department of Labor and Industry plans to have an amendment to the Boiler Act introduced, so that the State will supervise boiler inspection over the entire State. Currently Philadelphia, Scranton and Erie are exempt from State supervision. It is also planned to make boilers in anthracite mines, and oil well boilers, both now exempt, subject to State-supervised inspection. This bill would make the standards of boiler inspection uniform for the entire State.

Similar amendments are planned for the law on elevator inspection, under which Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Scranton are now exempt from State-supervised inspection. Another amendment is planned to include escalators under the Act, substituting clear-cut language for the present vague assumptions under which escalators are included.

The Bedding and Upholstery Act will be considered for amendments that will permit the State readier supervision of the sterilization and inspection of materials.

It is probable that labor will demand the reintroduction of the Wage Collection Bill, which gives the Department of Labor and Industry power to arbitrate wage claims not over $200, or to go into court on behalf of the employe, without paying any costs.

"I believe," says Mr. Bashore, "that at the last election the people passed judgment on the dilatory and reactionary tactics of the Senate in both the last special and regular sessions. I believe that by their vote the people of Pennsylvania indicated that they approve liberal labor laws. By their vote they expressed approval of the proposition that human rights should have as much attention as property rights. By their vote they gave us a mandate to put that proposition into effect.

WELL *Mothers* And WELL *Babies*

SOCIAL SECURITY LAW FUNDS PAY FOR OBSTETRICS INSTITUTE. OBJECT: LOWER MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES

FORTNIGHT ago a Chicago doctor made news in Pennsylvania. The news pointed up a new departure in post-graduate obstetrical study made possible by the Social Security Act.

Dr. Joseph Bolivar DeLee, goateed head of Chicago's Lying-In Hospital, generally rates as the No. 1 U. S. obstetrician because he founded that hospital 41 years ago, helped make obstetrics a learned and respected profession and demonstrated methods to prevent women from dying in childbirth.

Bachelor Dr. DeLee has brought more than 8,000 babies into the world with his own hand, has supervised the deliveries of 100,000 more. Though today he may charge as much as $2,000 to $3,000 for a single delivery, when Dr. DeLee founded the Lying-In Hospital in 1895 for poor women who could not get decent midwifery, he was rag-poor and just four years out of Chicago Medical College. With $500 that Chicago Jews gave him, and a stove, table and some chairs furnished by a Christian doctor, Dr. DeLee opened Chicago's first maternity dispensary in a $12-a-month tenement flat in Chicago's Ghetto. He had two beds picked up from a second-hand dealer, and linen supplied by his family. With this and assets that occasionally got down to 13c and a half a loaf of stale bread, Dr. DeLee began his work.

In 1900 Franklin Adrian Delano, uncle of President Roosevelt, gave the institution a lift by taking an interest that has never since flagged. Since then Dr. DeLee has grown so wealthy that he was able to write out a $55,000 check to the great Lying-In Hospital during a money-raising campaign. He has taught obstetrics to more than 3,000 nurses, 7,000 medical students, and some 600 post-graduate doctors. He has won the respect of medicos by a learned series of books and medical movies on obstetrics, and because Lying-In Hospital has one of the lowest maternity deathrates on the face of the earth.

Fortnight ago, celebrating his 67th birthday, Dr. DeLee issued a statement that repeated some medical observations for which he has crusaded during his life. Said learned Dr. DeLee:

"A survey a few years ago in two Eastern cities showed midwives had fewer deaths than doctors. The midwives didn't interfere with normal birth and mothers were not exposed to the fevers and communicable diseases of a general hospital.

"Obstetricians are too sloppy in their methods. They interfere too much with normal processes, and they don't know enough about their business.

"A woman has a better chance for life and health having her baby delivered at home than in most hospitals up and down the land, taking them by and large."

Thus did he emphasize his two campaigns; for doctors to wait more often for the baby to be born naturally, without forceps; and for the separation of maternity wards from other hospital divisions.

Immediately a half-dozen topnotch Philadelphia obstetricians cracked back at Dr. DeLee.

Said Dr. Leonard Averett, 51-year-old staff-member of three Philadelphia hospitals, fellow of the American College of Surgeons and head of Phi Delta Epsilon, of 67-year-old Dr. DeLee: "This statement by Dr. DeLee proves a well-known fact—that some people who serve a good purpose in early life can turn to be a menace when they reach their dotage."

Less forthright but with equal asperity, famed Dr. John A. McGlinn, noted gynecologist and head of St. Agnes Maternity Hospital, who resigned in 1930 as president of the Philadelphia County Medical Society observed: "If he means that to infer that 95 percent of all births in the United States are normal and therefore should be delivered at home, then he should resign his position in the various large maternity hospitals with which he is connected in Chicago."

Not so controversial was Texas-born Dr. Camille Joseph Stamm, professor of obstetrics at Penn's Graduate School of Medicine and senior gynecologist and obstetrician at the Jewish Hospital. Said he, mildly but firmly: "I am firmly convinced that proper hospitalization under proper normal conditions would certainly make for a safer delivery."

Such concern over the mothers' comfort and health during pregnancy, delivery and thereafter is so modern as still to be news. The oldest Egyptian mummy known is a pregnant woman, whose gravid body was dried, swathed in bandages and laid in the tomb 4,600 years ago, and dug up last year. Ancient doctors used forceps (which killed the baby) and Caesarian sections (which killed the mother) in difficult deliveries. Today Hindus often put braziers of hot charcoal under the maternity bed to assist Nature. More primitive obstetricians help by jumping up and down on the pregnant woman's abdomen.

Modern medical methods were devised, in respect to man's years on earth, almost yesterday. Though the most approved method is the first—normal birth. Few doctors are yet satisfied with the mortality rates of women and children in childbirth. The majority of babies are delivered at home by all-around doctors, few of whom saw more than a dozen deliveries while at medical school and who have learned practical obstetrics by watching Nature take her course. Last year 161,189 babies were born in Pennsylvania. There were 982 puerpal (maternity) deaths per 100,000. There were 5,887 babies still-born, 3,698 babies died in early infancy.

Though most mortality rates were lower last year than the year before, medicos are not satisfied. Said wealthy Dr. Charles C. Norris, whose family became connected with the University of Pennsylvania in 1751, and who is currently its Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, in a paper on the state of obstetrics last October:

"Recent increases in hospital confinements in this country have greatly increased the incidence of unnecessary surgical interference with labor, with results so unfortunate as to nullify the improvements in maternal mortality statistics which should have been expected from concurrent wide extension of prenatal care.

"This increase in operative obstetrics has been due in part to the deficient training of those who have to do the bulk of the maternity work in America, and in part to a failure of our present leaders and teachers to realize the misinterpretations to which their printed words are subject. Human nature being what it is, the environs of the general hospital tended to make of obstetrical practice a sort of surgical specialty in which many ill-fitted practitioners might essay to shine. In no other manner can one explain the rise in the number of obstetrical operations obtaining in hospitals which are receiving the increased proportion of presumably normal cases of pregnancy."

If not all doctors agree with famed Dr. DeLee's favorite arguments, most do agree that our low maternity mortality rates are still too high. They have devised various means to lower it. One is the topnotch American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology's plan to license doctors who have passed a stiff test in obstetrics. Another plan was that instituted this year by Dr. Edith MacBride-Dexter, State Secretary of Health, and the Pennsylvania Medical Society—a plan financed out of Social Security funds.

Among the grants of the omnibus Social Security Bill was one of $3,800,000 for maternal

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HONEY In the.. HIVE

The "Little Busy Bee," Partner in a Million-Dollar Pennsylvania Industry, Retires for Her Winter Rest

●

WITH the approach of winter a million-dollar Pennsylvania industry that hums with activity throughout the warm months is preparing to shut down until spring.

Bees that last year produced in this state about two million pounds of honey, worth $423,000, are settling in their hives for a long night of repose, while the sweet liquid they so zealously collected is distributed to markets many miles away.

In the production of honey, this state ranks fifth in the nation, with Bradford County, site of the large apiary of Harry Beaver, by far the largest producer.

The amount of money invested by Pennsylvanians in bees and the care of them has been estimated at a million dollars by H. B. Kirk, chief apiary inspector of the Department of Agriculture.

His job is to see that the beekeepers of the state maintain their apiaries in a proper sanitary condition.

Purpose of this is to protect the insects and their owners—not the public health, for as Mr. Kirk says:

"Honey is one food, perhaps the only one, which cannot carry a germ harmful to a human being. The content of the honey kills the germ.

"Hives kept in unhealthy surroundings, however, make the bee prey to contagious brood disease. Also, the wax moth will destroy stored combs if they are not properly cared for."

Aside from being a profitable business, beekeeping is the hobby of hundreds of Pennsylvanians.

Apiarist Kirk, whose amateur interest in bees turned to a professional one 25 years ago, says:

"Dctors, lawyers and teachers are among the amateur apiarists of Pennsylvania.

"It's a fascinating hobby that for centuries throughout the world has attracted persons with no other scientific interest."

This was demonstrated a few years ago when the United States Department of Agriculture sent out questionnaires to the entymologists of the nation in which they were asked to name the most interesting insect. The selection in almost every case was the bee.

The hobby is a contagious one, with colonies of bee-keepers frequently springing up in a neighborhood a few months after a pioneering apiarist sets up a hive in his back yard.

The total number of beekeepers in the state today is estimated at 30,000.

Should you live on a farm or in a suburb, you can join their ranks with little trouble and little cost.

For about $2.50 you can secure through the mails a package of bees—a queen and several pounds of workers.

Millions of these are shipped north every year from the southern states where the longer summers allow the insects to multiply more rapidly.

For four or five dollars, you can get a hive at a hardware store.

With the bees in the hive, the collection of honey starts, and you have a new business or a new hobby—according to your inclinations.

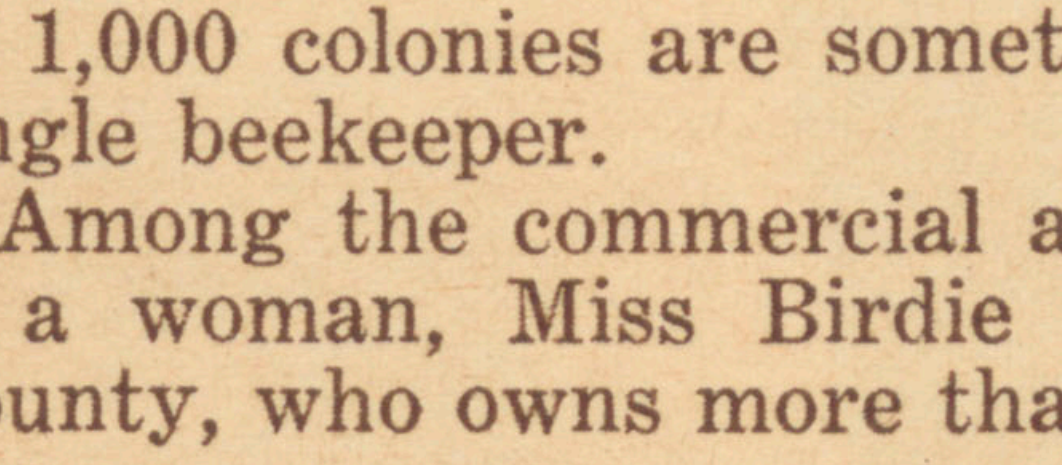
If you're lucky, you may get sixty pounds of honey from the original inhabitants of the hive in the first season.

And if you're curious and observing, you will learn of the amazing organization of the colony that makes it click with the efficiency of a high-geared modern business concern.

Gleaners collect the nectar from the flowers and blossoms and return it to the hive. Wax builders construct the combs and keep them in repair. Guards stand vigilant at the entrances to fight off brigand bees. Nurses tend to the baby bees and feed their regurgitated honey, a royal food, to the queen bee, who rules the hive and then lays the eggs which provide new generations to carry on the work.

Commercial apiaries may contain from 10 to 100 colonies of bees in one location, and as many as 1,000 colonies are sometimes controlled by a single beekeeper.

Among the commercial apiarists of the state is a woman, Miss Birdie Hartel, of Jefferson County, who owns more than 200 colonies.



The Beaver apiary in Bradford County is one of the few in the state where a machine for extracting honey from the comb is wheeled about among the hives in the field.

Inserted in the extractor, the combs are swept about in a circular movement that loosens a golden flow of nectar into a tank below.

Honey is generally filtered into 60-pound cans for the wholesale market.

About 15 per cent of that produced in Pennsylvania is sold to bakers for use in making bread and cake.

The rest is bought by retailers who heat the liquid to melt crystals that would otherwise cause the honey to become a solid mass. They jar it and it's on the way to the home.

Wax produced by the bee is a by-product of the hive that in Pennsylvania is worth approximately $20,000 annually.

Cut from the top of the comb, it is used in the manufacturing of candles and carbon paper, and is also sold to bee supply dealers for use in the construction of comb foundations.

Aside from their readily appraised value as producers of honey and wax, bees also contribute to the wealth of Pennsylvania as pollinizers for the production of fruits and vegetables.

The honey bee is credited with about 90 per cent of the pollen transfer in orchards and is the only valuable carrying agent that can be managed by the orchardist.

Many hundreds of colonies are being used for pollinization purposes alone, although a number of the large fruit growers make honey production an important item of their income.

Since beekeeping goes on in every county in the state, the Department of Agriculture has a difficult problem on its hands in attempting to keep a check on the many and vari-typed apiaries that come under its jurisdiction.

Under the Pennsylvania Bee Law every apiary, commercial or otherwise, is required to be inspected by department agents.

From spring until fall, fifteen of them roam about the state, checking on conditions, approving hives properly managed, destroying those that are diseased, and using legal force to compel bee men to remedy unsatisfactory conditions.

Although this crew is kept busily occupied for five months every year, Apiarist Kirk declared that his staff can cover only about a fourth of Pennsylvania's apiaries in that time.

Today in thousands of hives throughout the state colonies of bees are clustered, eating the honey that has been left there for their food.

This they use for fuel for body heat that keeps the temperature in the hive almost constant at 57 degrees.

The bee is the only insect that thus provides its own warmth for its home during the winter.

Once a month, roughly, the bee will venture forth when a break in the cold weather occurs, to exercise his body functions.

Should the temperature remain zeroish for a prolonged period, dysentery will wreak havoc in the ice-bound colony.

To protect the hibernating insects from winter's blasts, the beekeeper removes the hives to cellars built for the purpose or wraps them in paper or burlap under which he stuffs a layer of straw.

Shut off from the light and the life of the outside world, these tiny miracles of industry and instinct take their well-earned rest, ready to leap back into action at the bursting of the first bloom of spring.

The New NEW DEAL Senators

OUT GO THE OLD AND IN COME THE NEW AS REACTION MAKES WAY FOR PROGRESS

Weldon B. Heyburn

THE Roosevelt tidal wave lapped into Pennsylvania early election evening, as the first returns were flashed. Then with the roar of a river in spate it swirled across the State. Swept down the flood went many a Old Guard Republican Senator—the bulwarks of reaction who had stood between the citizens and liberal government.

In their places came new names—new faces—new New Deal Senators to give the Democrats a working majority of 34 in the Senate. We the People herewith presents sketches of the 13 new Senators; pictures of most of them; and of one Senator, Ruth of Berks, who was re-elected after serving out in the last special session an unexpired term.

Your gallery of new New Deal Senators:

Dr. Leo C. Mundy. Residence, Wilkes-Barre. His district (21st) includes part of Luzerne County.

Dr. Mundy is a physician and surgeon of scholarship and fine practical capacity, a chief of the Mercy Hospital surgical staff in Wilkes-Barre, and of the County, State, American and other medical associations. Born in Wilkes-Barre in 1887, he attended University of Pennsylvania Medical School (1908), then returned to practice in Wilkes-Barre after serving his interneship.

His medical career in Wilkes-Barre has been broken only by his Wartime service, when he advanced from lieutenant at the Fort Oglethorpe Medical Officers' Training Corps to surgeon and major in the Montoir District in France, and Commander of Camp Hospital No. 85. For his notable record he was awarded a distinguished service citation by General Pershing, and breveted a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Medical Reserve Corps. He is a life member of both the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

H. Jerome Jaspen. Residence, Philadelphia. His district (3rd) includes the 5th, 6th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 16th and 18th wards. He defeated John R. K. Scott.

Thirty-nine-year-old H. Jerome Jaspen has been practicing law in Philadelphia since 1923. He attended Central High School, Columbia University and Temple Law School. In 1926 Mr. Jaspen became Assistant City Solicitor in Philadelphia, stayed in that post until 1932. In 1935 and 1936 he was a member of the Attorney General's staff.

Israel Stiefel. Residence, Philadelphia. His district (5th) includes the 17th, 19th, 20th, 31st and 37th wards. He defeated Max Aron.

Holder of three scholastic degrees, Senator Stiefel, at 38, is still a practicing student, working for a doctor's degree in Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania. His studies center about problems of state government and taxation. Before entering Penn he went to school in Germany. Graduating from Penn in 1928, he was admitted to the bar the same year. In 1929 he was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Weldon B. Heyburn. Residence, Concordville. His district includes Delaware County. He defeated John J. McClure.

Senator Heyburn takes office with the enthusiastic well wishes of every decent citizen of his district who hopes to forget as soon as possible the rotten record of the man he beat at the polls, the notorious McClure. Politics is not a foreign field to this new office-holder. His father, the late Harry H. Heyburn, was a member of the Legislature for ten years. Numerous other relatives had careers in public life, including a cousin, the late U. S. Senator Weldon B. Heyburn, of Idaho, who was born in Delaware County, and who was the author of the original United States Pure Food Law.

Senator Heyburn, 33, and his brothers run the firm of H. H. Heyburn Sons, pork packers, at Brandywine Summit. He is a member of the National Advisory Committee on Rural Electrification; vice president of the Delaware County Milk Producers and Consumers Association.

George Kunkel. Residence, Harrisburg. His district (15th) includes Dauphin County. He defeated George L. Reed.

Senator Kunkel assumes a new title in the same city in which he was born 43 years ago and in which he has lived since, with time out for army service during the World War. Graduating from Dickinson Law School in 1920, he was admitted to the bar shortly afterwards, and has since practiced in Harrisburg. His father, after whom he was named, was President Judge of the Common Pleas Courts of Dauphin County for sixteen years. Senator Kunkel is a member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans. He served in France with the 79th Division.

Dr. P. J. Henney. Residence, McKees Rocks. His district (45th) includes part of Allegheny County. He defeated Frank J. Harris.

In 1933 Dr. Henney managed to find time off from his duties as a physician to run for the office of Burgess of McKees Rocks. And when the votes were counted he found himself the first Democrat ever elected to that post in what was once a rock-ribbed Republican borough. Dr. Henney was born in Carnegie 50 years ago, went to high school there, and got his medical degree at the University of Louisville. During the World War he served as a First Lieutenant in the Medical Corps. Since his discharge from the army he has practiced medicine in McKees Rocks.

Thomas E. Kilgallen. Residence, Pittsburgh. His district (43rd) includes part of the city of Pittsburgh. He defeated James J. Coyne.

When Kilgallen beat Coyne, the last vestige of G.O.P. power in Allegheny County vanished under an avalanche of ballots. The removal of Coyne from public life marked at once the end of the Republican dynasty in Western Pennsylvania and the finish of a political career that typified the workings of that dynasty. Well launched through the publicity he received as Coyne's conqueror, Kilgallen comes to Harrisburg with a background that includes positions as solicitor for the Pittsburgh Registration Board, and as Assistant U. S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania. He is 44 and unmarried. Enlisting in the Army as a private, he was discharged after the World War a second lieutenant. He was admitted to the bar in 1924.

Samuel L. Gilson. Residence, Erie. His district (39th) includes Erie County. He defeated Joseph K. Ziesenheim.

Erie knows Senator Gilson as a former City Solicitor. He served in that capacity for five

(Continued on Page 14)

Anthony J. Di Silvestro

Dr. P. J. Henney

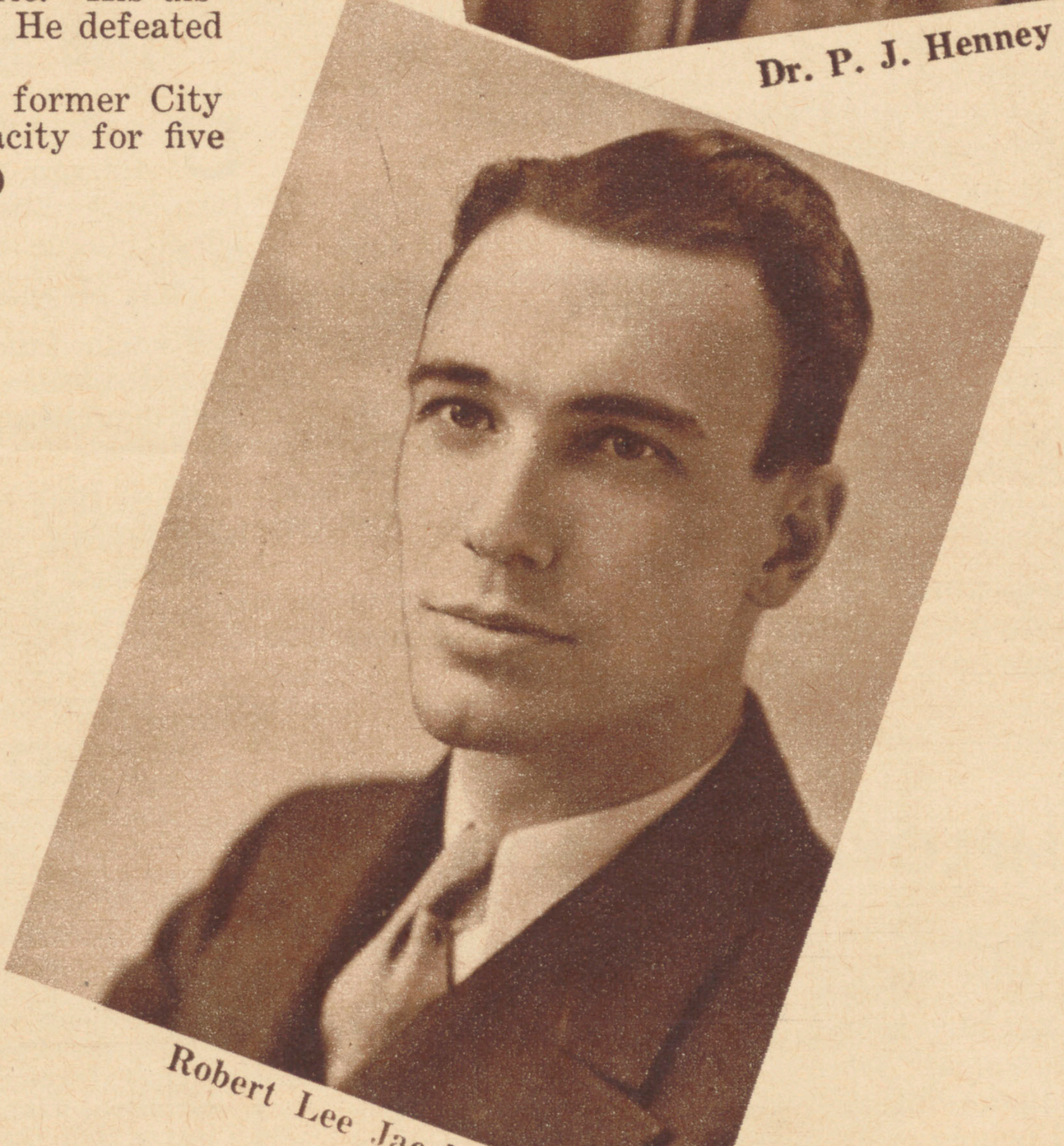
C. Hale Sipe

Frank W. Ruth

H. Jerome Jaspen

Dr. Leo C. Mundy

George Kunkel


Robert Lee Jacobs

We the People

Trade Mark Registered

REED McROBERTS . . . Editor

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SPECIAL SESSION... FORETASTE OF LIBERAL GOVERNMENT

GOVERNOR EARLE has called a special session of Legislature, which will have met by the time this issue is printed. It will have just one matter of business before it—passing a Social Security Act to conform with the Federal Government's Social Security Law.

Under the Federal law, unemployment insurance taxes will go into the general funds of the Federal Government if Pennsylvania has no social security law by January 1.

If it has such a law, the social security program begins in Pennsylvania, with 90 percent of the taxes collected coming back to this State.

Not to have such a law will cost Pennsylvania some $22,500,000 in 1936 security taxes due January, 1937.

A social security bill was introduced in the last special session of the General Assembly. It was killed in the Republican Senate, when Republican Senators attempted to write a bill making a political football of social security.

There are two things regarding this bill which may be pointed out.

First: The State will have to spend between $75,000 and $155,000 for the special session. The low figure will result if legislators adopt the Governor's suggestion that they remit $300 of the $500 salary they receive for special sessions back to the State. This $75,000 or $155,000 is a direct tax imposed on the people by the stubbornness of that band of reactionary Republican Senators who must have known that their blind adherence to Tory masters would drive them out of their Senate seats.

It is the most tangible of the millions of dollars which have been wrung from Pennsylvania's citizens by a reactionary party control.

Second: The vote of November 3 was an overwhelming vote for liberal legislation of the social security type. The GOP campaign ringmasters injected a scurrilous attack on social security as their last-minute appeal to the electorate. The people responded with a tremendous vote—for social security.

It will be well for Senators and Representatives to remember the size of this vote, if and when representatives of the Old Guard approach them with whining objections to a social security law.

It is not argued that the present social security plan is perfect. But if people wait for a perfect law to settle their troubles, or to lead them on the liberal road, they will get nowhere. The present law is the first step.

Pennsylvania must take that first step—not only to save $22,500,000—but to give its citizens what they have demanded.

UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

THE Senate of Pennsylvania will not seem like the same old place now.

Mr. McClure won't be there. He announced his "retirement" from politics late election night, when dismaying returns indicated that the aroused people of Delaware County had tumbled him out of his Senate seat. Under heavy police guard, Mr. McClure quietly left his office—and left town on a "vacation."

Mr. Coyne will not be there. Nor will Mr. Clark. Nor will Mr. Aron. Nor will others who formed the Iron Guard.

But we're not particularly worried about them. Old politicians seem always able to snaffle up a job somewhere.

But we are wondering about those other familiar old figures who seemed a part of the Senate's permanent decoration scheme—the lobbyists.

How comfortably they lounged in the chairs just outside the rail. How familiarly they leaned on the railing itself, just off the Senate's sacred floor in body, but how firmly ensconsed on it in spirit. How attentively the Senators bent their ears to these gentlemen's every word.

Where will the old lobbyists be? Will they too have Gone With the Wind?

Or will they march in on the Democratic body now, smiles on their lips, their hands outstretched in greeting, booming out to new and re-elected members, "Congratulations, Senator?"

Alas, that seems too much like the lion lying down with the lamb. And if it comes to pass, the new young Senators might well be warned what happens when lions and lambs get together.

But we doubt if the Senators need to be warned.

They will probably remember only too well the open or covert sneers with which these gentlemen derided the then minority's plans for liberal legislation. Those wounds have probably not yet healed.

We suggest that if any of the old line lobbyists are tactless enough to show up, they be politely escorted to seats in—the gallery.

But probably a new and different set of Senators will mean a new and different set of lobbyists.

POINT No. 2

RECENTLY Governor Earle announced that the State would have to fall in line with its own Government's liberal doctrines by ceasing to work certain of its employes, mostly in State institutions, sweatshop hours at sweatshop pay.

He also asked for a report on State employes who are receiving only $900 a year, with a view to raising them above that subsistence level pay.

At the same time the Governor might ask for a report on the promptness with which new employes in the lower brackets receive their first paycheck. Many employes in the lower pay brackets have told pitiful tales of having to wait weeks before their first paychecks came through.

It is an inhumane condition. If it prevails to any extent, it should be remedied.

THE MODERN PLAGUE

UNITED STATES Surgeon General Thomas Parran, Jr., has taken as the goal of his term in public office the eradication of the last great plague to be tackled by modern medicine.

That plague is syphilis.

Foolish taboos have hidden the facts about this disease. But it is fairly well established that one citizen out of every ten is afflicted with syphilis.

Since 1905 the specific cause of the disease has been known. Since 1906 the test for diagnosing the disease has been known. Since 1910 a positive cure for syphilis has been known.

Yet still that disgraceful figure of one in ten blots our medical annals and our nation.

The reason may be written down in one word —prudery.

Prudery has prevented public discussion of it. Prudery has kept many a person away from certain cure in the early stages of the disease, when cure IS certain. Prudery has prevented a public campaign against it.

Meantime the United States had brought typhoid fever under control by 1910. It took diphtheria out of the major communicable disease class by 1920. Since 1904 the tuberculosis deathrate has been cut from 200 per 100,000 to 55 per 100,000.

Only within the past year or so have newspapers printed the word syphilis in their columns. Before it had masqueraded under the nervous Nellie name of "social disease," and was rarely mentioned at that.

The battle against syphilis will be the major medical battle of the next decade.

In Pennsylvania, an anti-syphilis program was recently launched in Allegheny County.

People are too intelligent these days to let themselves die because of prudery.

We the People will lend its columns to this major medical battle. In a near issue, and from time to time, it will report developments on this important modern medical battlefront.

TO OUR READERS

We the People will be glad to print letters of interest from its readers. You are bound to have first-hand experience that others do not have, but will be glad to share. Write about your jobs, about your hobbies. Write about conditions as you know them, basing your letters on facts, not on unsupported opinions. People are interesting to other people. Write about yourselves.

We the People is also open to receive manuscripts from its readers—articles on little-known historical data, on odd, out-of-the-way business, on interesting facts of Pennsylvania life. It will pay for manuscripts it uses. We the People assumes no responsibility for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

LIQUOR LICENSES . . . AND LICENSE WITH LIQUOR

AMERICA does not want to go through the Prohibition period again. It bred too much crime; too easy an acceptance of crime by the average citizen; too much laxity among law enforcement officials.

It was a period during which scandal and disgrace flourished.

Because America does not want a return of Prohibition, its citizens should take heed of the currents which are flowing toward Prohibition again.

In its States Stores system Pennsylvania has as fine sales agency for liquor as any in the country. There are few blemishes on the State Stores' records. They are, on the whole, efficiently run. The prices are comparatively low, and the return to the State in profits and taxes is good. The system itself is comparatively free of the gutter politics that hung like an alcoholic aura about the old pre-Prohibition control systems.

The weak point in Repeal drinking is not the stores. It is the licensees who sell liquor over bars and at the tables of restaurants, cafes and night clubs.

Anyone with half an eye for people's ages, or with a knowledge of the younger sets in his own community knows that licensees are wantonly violating the law by selling liquor to minors.

Anyone with half an eye can see that these places are selling liquor to persons already intoxicated.

That they do not know how to use liquor as something tasteful, as something puts a gentle bloom on the world after a jangled day's work—that they'll wake up with a headache in the morning—is the least distressing fact.

The dangerous fact is that many of these heavy drinkers will go out, get in their cars, and attempt to drive themselves home afterward.

Some never make it. Others may mow down an innocent pedestrian, or smash up another driver.

A Pittsburgh judge is imposing heavy prison sentences for drunken driving.

The man who drives while drunk is at fault.

But the licensee is also to blame.

The licensee must be made to obey the law. If liquor companies are intelligent, they will make an effort on their own part to see that these retail distributors obey the law—both of the land, and of commonsense.

If the abuses of retail distribution are not curtailed, America will soon be in for another Prohibition era, and all its ills.

ACRES of DIAMONDS

SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES IN OUR OWN BACK YARD LURE THE AMATEUR PROSPECTOR

IN Philadelphia today stands Temple University, tribute to the restless energy, the genius of organization and the power to thrill audiences of dynamic Russell Herman Conwell, known to several generations for his famed lecture, "Acres of Diamonds."

In phrases which most schoolboys have had to learn, Conwell told how a man hunted all over the world for diamonds, meeting failure at every turn until he went back home—to discover acres of them in his own back yard.

The moral was plain enough. Plain, too, was the fact that the lecture opened a diamond mine to Conwell. For the enormous sum he made in delivering the speech to more than 6,000 audiences he devoted to the education of more than 10,000 young men. He founded a church and from it grew Temple University.

To Philadelphians familiar with the Conwell epic it may be well to point out that the soil beneath their homes is—in actuality—loaded with mineral wealth. Not in diamonds but in gold.

Geologists have declared that under the Quaker City lies a clay deposit of ten square miles that contains a field of the precious ore worth more than $125,000,000.

To a professional prospector, however, it holds no appeal. For the process by which the metal is extracted from the clay is more costly than the gold itself.

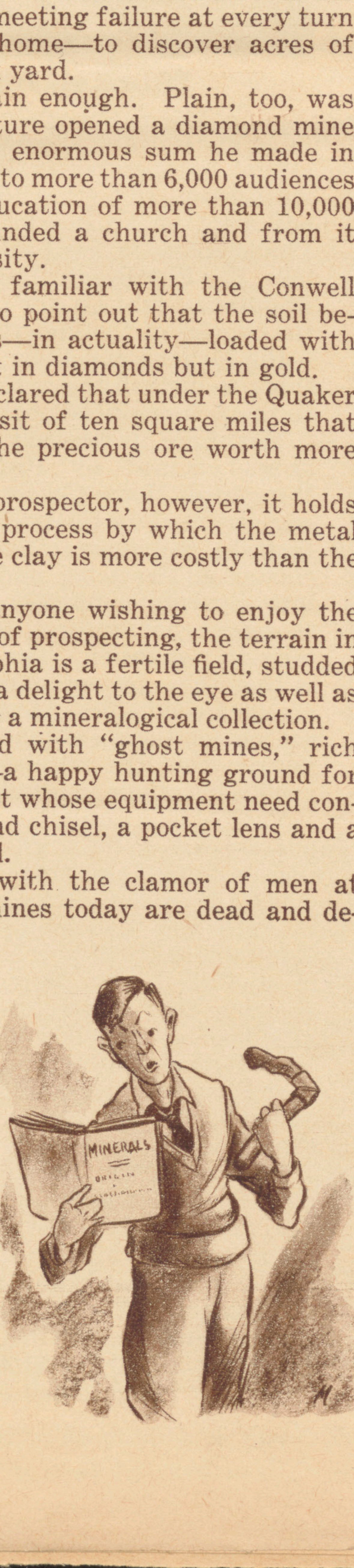
Nevertheless, to anyone wishing to enjoy the thrill and adventure of prospecting, the terrain in and around Philadelphia is a fertile field, studded with stones that are a delight to the eye as well as an excellent basis for a mineralogical collection.

The area is dotted with "ghost mines," rich in romantic appeal—a happy hunting ground for the amateur geologist whose equipment need consist of only a pick and chisel, a pocket lens and a bag for the day's find.

Once resounding with the clamor of men at work, these ghost mines today are dead and deserted, with ruined chimneys, partially filled shafts, and radiating dumps the only evidence of the toil once spent there.

Along Mine Run, near Valley Forge, are the Perkiomen and Ecton Mines, where ore was discovered in 1809.

Here the prospector can find a dozen glistening specimens for his collection by digging into the dumps about the shaft on top of the hill.



At the sites of the old lead and zinc mines west of the Schuylkill, a mile south of Phoenixville, the earth is prolific with sparkling minerals.

Here lie galena and sphalerite, associated with some pyrite, in a matrix of crystals of quartz, calcite, ankerite, dolomite and fluorite.

Near the Falls of French Creeks are the old French Creek Iron Mines, abandoned but surrounded by extensive dumps in which are buried attractive crystallized black, octahedral magnetite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, greenish calcite, bysolite, graphite, garnet and very rarely apophyllite.

In Philadelphia stone quarries, where the lower layers of the earth's surface have been exposed to the sun, the prospector may find numerous specimens for his collection.

Some of those where minerals repose in easy reach of his pick are:

Leiper's Quarry, on the east side of Ridley Creek in Delaware County, one-half mile south of Darby. The quarry is in granite gneiss, with minerals in the veins of pegmatite in the gneiss. There may be found smoky crystalline grains of quartz; flesh-colored crystals of microcline feldspar; black soft biotite, a variety of mica; green and yellow beryl, beautiful and translucent; and brilliant red crystals of spessartite garnet.

At Mineral Hill, on the grounds of the Training School at Elwyn, one mile west of Media, minerals are found in the quarry, on a dump outside, and in boulders in the woods and in the bed of Ridley Creek. There are hard, bronzy masses of enstatite, soft green serpentine, black octrahedral grains of chromite and several other colorful minerals.

At Vanartsdalen's Quarry, to choose one of the richer beds, the following minerals have been found and identified: graphite, blue quartz, bluish orthoclase, greenish pyroxene, green amphiobole, white wollastonite, wernento, golden phlogophite, pyrrohitite, soft blue apatite, calcite, brown zircon and brown titanite.

Assembled, they would provide a beautiful color assortment of blues, greens, golds and browns in a scintillating variety of shades.

In the entire Philadelphia area there are at least ten mineral districts in which fifty different minerals may be found.

The number of useful minerals recorded as having been found in the state is 129—an amazing total that makes it almost a duty for every Pennsylvanian to become acquainted with the nature of the wealth that lies beneath the soil he daily treads on. Pennsylvania contains one-fifth of the nation's mineral wealth—including Alaska's gold.

In variety it runs from the black diamonds scooped from the coal fields of the bituminous and anthracite regions to the gold that is annually mined at Cornwall.

Though the fact that Pennsylvania is a gold producing state is little known, the United States Bureau of Mines reports that last year the total mined here was worth $21,774.

Also, the same bureau reports that Pennsylvania's silver yield in 1935 was worth $4,027.

According to Ralph W. Stone, assistant state geologist, both of these metals are by-products of the iron mines of the Bethlehem Steel Company at Cornwall.

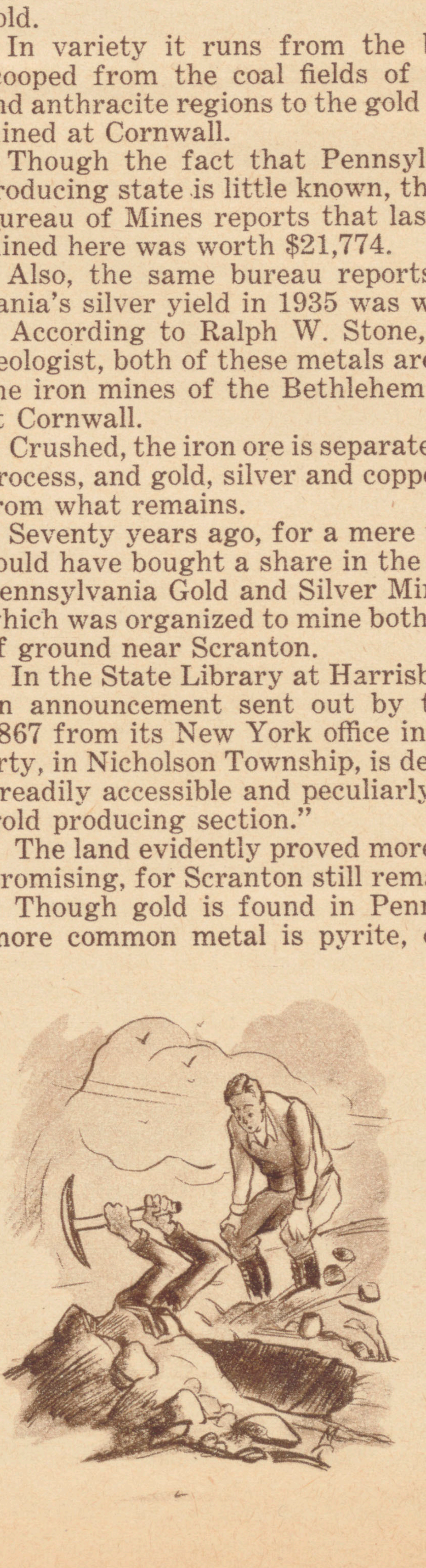
Crushed, the iron ore is separated by a magnetic process, and gold, silver and copper are recovered from what remains.

Seventy years ago, for a mere five dollars, you could have bought a share in the "New York and Pennsylvania Gold and Silver Mining Company," which was organized to mine both metals in a plot of ground near Scranton.

In the State Library at Harrisburg is a copy of an announcement sent out by the company in 1867 from its New York office in which its property, in Nicholson Township, is described as being "readily accessible and peculiarly promising as a gold producing section."

The land evidently proved more accessible than promising, for Scranton still remains a coal town.

Though gold is found in Pennsylvania soil, a more common metal is pyrite, or "fool's gold," which has touched off many a dream of wealth in the imagination of its finders.



Despite the attention it gets in the schoolrooms of the state, pyrite still deludes many Pennsylvanians, whose discoveries frequently arrive

(Continued on page 14)

TRANSPORT

In Which it is Shown That Even a Utility Can Be Brought to Terms When the Public Knows the Facts . . . As in the Pittsburgh Motor Coach Case. Also, a Note on Underliers and the PRT.

"IF bus fares were reduced to that of the street car," asked a Pittsburgh City solicitor of a group of citizen witnesses several months ago, "Would you use the bus?"

"We would," chorused a lawyer, a beautician, two 18-year-old Schenley High Schoolers, a dry goods clerk, and a score of other witnesses from Pittsburgh's Bloomfield and Hill districts. "It's a crime!" exploded one Jack Orie. "The fellows won't walk up Herron Hill and a girl can't have boy friends," pouted one girl who complained that her home was a half-mile from a streetcar, two blocks from a bus which none of her boy friends could afford.

PHILADELPHIA CO.'S PHILLIP

He Wanted to Compromise.

To such simple human wants and objections as these do the complex tangles of utility rate structures finally boil down. Last week a typical utility situation in Pittsburgh had reached the point where it seemed that the Herron Hill girl might soon be primping almost any night in the week for boy friends who could afford new lower bus fares on the Pittsburgh Motor Coach Company's buses.

Pittsburgh Motor Coach is part of the close-knit Philadelphia Company utility empire on which the sun might set, but to no effect. Philadelphia Company furnishes light for artificial suns, heat, and transportation service to those Pittsburghers who ride either streetcars or buses. It owns profitable Duquesne Light Company, Equitable Gas Company, Pittsburgh Railways Company, Pittsburgh Motor Coach Company, and a host of lesser subsidiaries. That Philadelphia Company is itself a piece in a larger and more complicated Chinese puzzle of holding companies and super holding companies that finally end up in the fists of Chicago and New York investment bankers is not a part of the present story.

Pittsburgh Motor Coach Co. charges 25c for a ride on one of its buses, against the normal 10c fare in any other typical urban center. In 1934 Pittsburgh's Council, bolstered by a Democratic majority, slapped down an ordinance cutting the fare to 15c, only to have it knocked out in court for lack of data to justify this arbitrary price-fixing. The City promptly set a battery of experts to winnowing through the complexities of Pittsburgh's transportation system. By last Spring the City had enough evidence to take its case before the Public Service Commission—this time demanding a 10c fare.

Really alarmed at this first bare-knuckled effort to wangle a commonsense fare from his bus company, Philadelphia Co.'s President Frank Reith Phillips and his utility cohorts announced that they were ready to compromise. Basis of compromise: a 15c fare; dissolution of the Motor Coach Co., which would merge with the Railways Co.; 46 new buses with 71 additional drivers, and the opening of seven new bus lines to begin co-ordinating street railway and bus service.

While Pittsburgh's Mayor Cornelius Decatur Scully seemed politely pleased at this new offer, Pittsburgh councilmen saw numerous niggers in the woodpile. To merge the Motor Coach Co. with the Railways Co. would open the door for more of that deft financial juggling with which utilities obscure real profits and operating costs. And that Philadelphia Co. was so willing to compromise now, on condition that the suit before the Public Service Commission be dropped, indicated that it was willing to make drastic concessions for fear of losing more, if and when a suit brought out all the facts.

Said Councilman James Lawrence O'Toole, leader of the councilmanic 10c fare group: "Public service is not the subject of compromise . . . The Pittsburgh Railways realize that they are beaten in the pending litigation; they realize also that if existing statutes and existing tribunals are not adequate to secure decent service for the people of Pittsburgh, we now have a people's government in Harrisburg which can and will correct both. They see that their long reign of extortion is about to end, and so they come to us with fair words but offering us nothing we cannot get in spite of them. I fear the Greeks bearing gifts."

Last week Mayor Scully, who favored compromise, and a majority of the councilmen who had opposed it on the Philadelphia Co.'s terms, had drafted a compromise agreement of their own. Its terms: 15c cash fare, 8 tickets for $1, 20 tickets for $2. (The Philadelphia Co.'s best offer had been 15 tickets for $2.)

If the company agreed, the offer proposed to drop the rate case, and to enter into amicable negotiations with the Pittsburgh Railways Co., parent company of the Motor Coach Co., for immediate steps to reorganize Pittsburgh's transportation facilities along modern lines.

Meantime, as President Phillips pondered his answer over Thanksgiving week-end, Pittsburghers and other citizens of the State interested in the utility question could ponder various instructive facts which have been dredged out during hearings before the Public Service Commission:

COUNCILMAN O'TOOLE

"Public Service is not the Subject of Compromise."

Basis of the whole problem is Pittsburgh Railways Co., which is set up on a system of underliers—more than a hundred old street railway companies whose franchises were mostly obtained during the open-handed days when graft was the accepted method of pocketing a valuable franchise. To stockholders of these underlying companies, Pittsburgh Railways has paid millions in leases—fixed charges—while it itself showed big deficits every year since 1930, and defaulted $300,000 a year to the City of Pittsburgh every year since 1931.

Pittsburgh Railways has claimed at various times that it maintained the 25c fare to keep buses in a special service class where they would not compete with streetcars; or again that buses cannot be operated in Pittsburgh for 25c. But truth seems to be that Pittsburgh Railways does not want cheap buses at all. Apparently the Philadelphia Co. has been satisfied with the huge tolls its Pittsburgh Railways Co. pays to its Duquesne Light Co. for power. Also, apparently, the owners of the underlying traction companies—the Mellons and their ilk—never wanted anything to disturb the regular dividends that came to them from Pittsburgh Railways Co.

FEDERAL JUDGE WELSH

A Momentous Decision in Philadelphia.

Meantime it was not at all certain that the losses claimed by Pittsburgh Railways and Pittsburgh Motor Coach Co. were as red as they were painted on the books of the companies. A favorite technique of holding companies is to cluster all servicing and real estate operations into separate companies which are not utilities, therefore not subject to Public Service Commission regulation. The logical reason for them is that they are economical for the operation of complex companies. Another and less publicized reason for their existence is that they are holes down which the regulated companies can pour profits into their unregulated pockets.

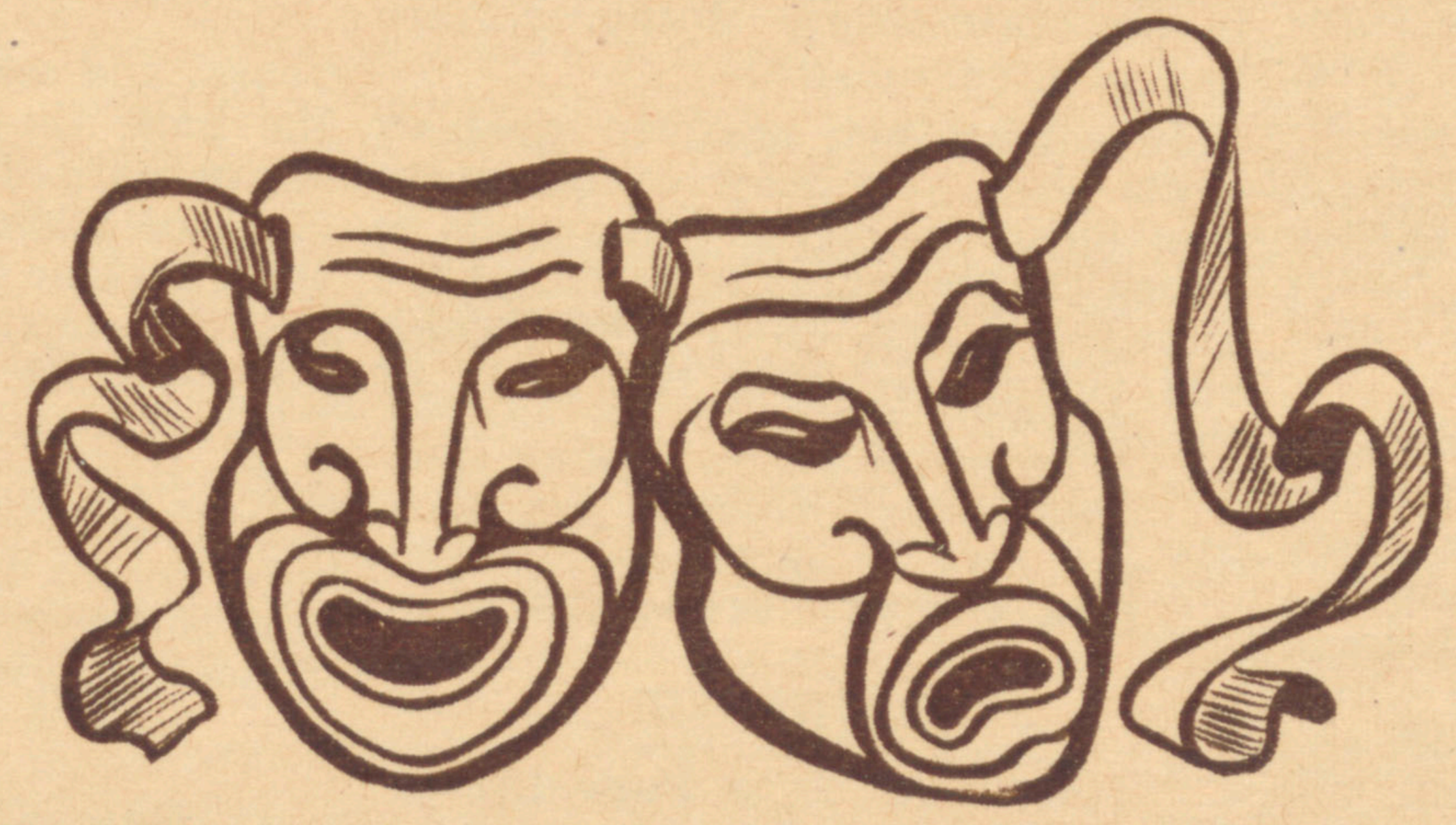
Thus exists Equitable Auto Co., which repairs and services Pittsburgh Motor Coach buses, Duquesne Light Co. trucks, and all other Philadelphia Company vehicles. Capitalized at $5,000 in 1919 and written up to $450,000 by 1933, Equitable Auto is now worth $1,500,000. While most Philadelphia Company subsidiaries were showing Depression losses, Equitable Auto paid $351,000 in dividends through 1930 to 1934. In 1935 it paid $304,966 in cash dividends. That year Philadelphia Co. sold it to its utility affiliates and subsidiaries. Each of its $100 shares represents $64,700 in dividends since 1919.

Equitable Real Estate Co., another Philadelphia Co.-owned subsidiary not regulated by the PSC., had an even sharper financial rise than its auto servicing sister Company. Capitalized at $5,000 in 1919, it is now written up to $1,000,000 and is worth some $4,000,000 net. Its Depression record is handsome: in 1933, a cash dividend of $227,273; in 1934, a $100,000 dividend; in 1935,

(Continued on Page 14)

THE NEW (TWO-FACED) JOURNALISM

A Pottsville Publisher Renames His Paper Following Democratic Sweep



Gets Lesson From Lancaster Publisher With A Paper For Each Party

ON November 3 Pennsylvania went Democratic by a plurality of more than 650,000. As city rooms all over the State geared themselves up to keep pace with the bulletins that flashed in, as newshawks' fingers stabbed out rapid-fire copy for election extras, many a publisher was sitting at his office desk, reading the returns as apprehensively as John Daniel Miller Hamilton himself.

For as wave after wave of election returns washed through newspaper plants, they swept away with them the stuff on which newspaper tradition lives—prestige and popular respect in the press's integrity. Despite the 80 percent of the press which opposed the New Deal, the people voted for it.

Last week occurred a significant event in Pennsylvania publishing history.

In Pottsville, where the Roosevelt wave lapped into the fringe of the hard coal region, Publisher J. H. Zerbey took his aching head out of his hands, grinned slyly at his idea for corralling the Democratic readers in Pottsville.

With one swift, spot-changing move he killed one of his papers and transformed it into a Democratic organ—by the simple process of changing its name and printing a new sign on the window.

Herewith the facts in this Janus-faced insult to the intelligence of the public:

For fourteen anemic years the Pottsville Morning paper has been nibbling at the Republican pie counter, the morning twin of Publisher Zerbey's Pottsville Evening Republican.

There is no Democratic daily newspaper in Schuylkill County. There are seven organs which have for years been drums on which was beat out the tattoo of Republican propaganda. Yet despite the force-feeding of Republican propaganda, 55,000 voters, ignoring their newspapers' threats, pleadings and bone-rattling, marched to the polls to return Schuylkill County's largest Democratic plurality since the Civil War, in the second Roosevelt landslide. The event was enough to make any plum-fat publisher quake in his journalistic boots.

With opportunistic sangfroid Publisher Zerbey surveyed the wreckage left by the Roosevelt tidal wave.

Few days later the Pottsville Morning Paper turned up its toes and expired. Corner postmortems attributed its demise to shock and poor circulation—some 1,800 copies at last reports.

But the corpse was not interred.

Instead, Publisher Zerbey made some passes over it, mumbled an incantation—and brought it back to life. The next morning startled Pottsvillans woke up to see the corpse of the Pottsville Morning Paper walking the earth with a new suit of clothes. Just two weeks after it had, in its pre-election issue, ended as despicable a campaign of villification against the President as was possible, this rock-ribbed Republican organ took up its masquerade as—a Democratic paper, called the Schuylkill New Deal Reporter.

COL. J. H. ZERBEY

He took a leaf from . . .

COL. J. H. STEINMAN

. . . Publisher Steinman's book

There had been no change of personnel on the Reporter to justify its alleged Democratic leanings. True, its price had been upped a penny, making it the most expensive paper in Schuylkill County. True, a high school sportswriter in his teens had been magically transformed into Political Editor. But such tactics do not indicate sincerity.

Colonel Zerbey is politically ambitious. Pottsville citizens recall the gyrations of his paper in the stress of political campaigns. Few years ago he cut over to the Pinchot bandwagon when that fake "great liberal" came to power. Last year Progressive Republicans saw him default back to the notorious Houck Republican machine. Oddly enough, a number of political plums simultaneously fell from the Houck tree into the laps of several members of his newspaper staff.

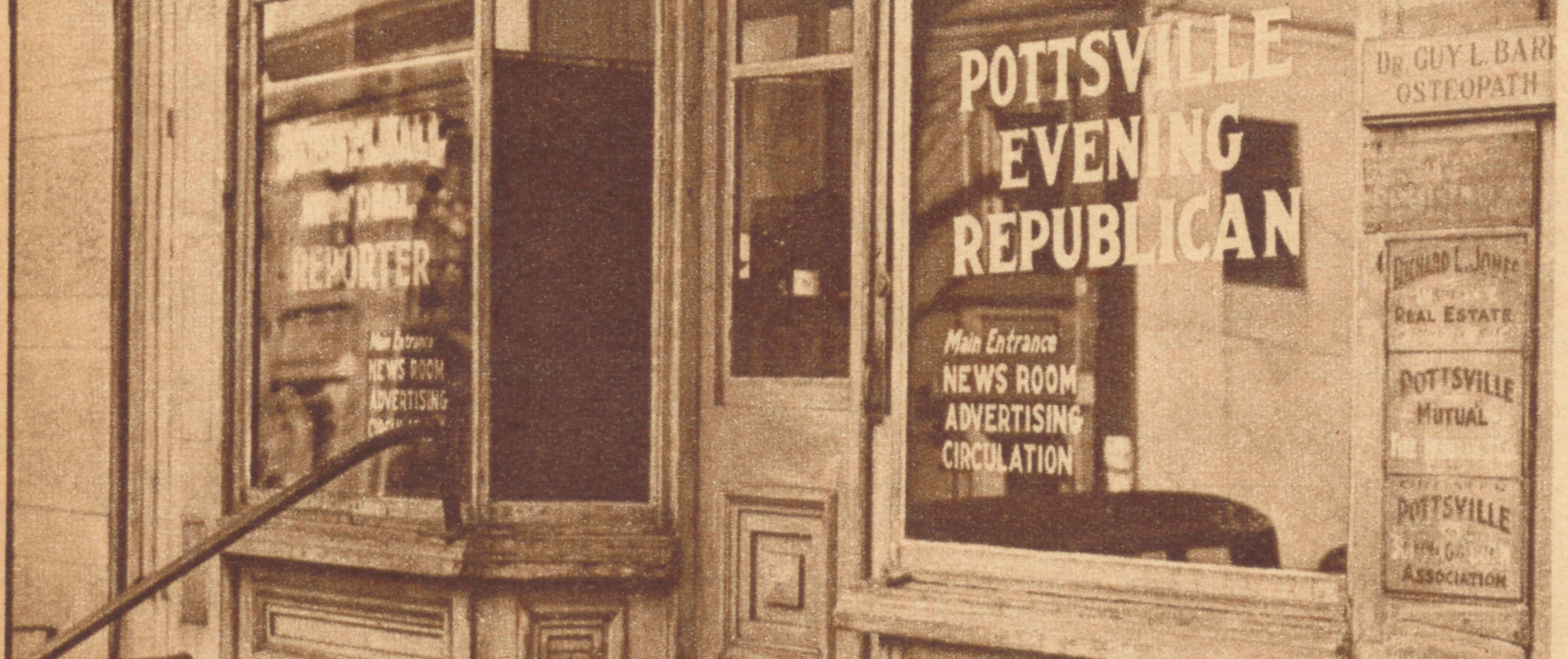
Whatever ambitions to GOP leadership Publisher Zerbey had must have been shattered in the cold dawn of the day after election. But as the dream dispersed, he did see plainly the 55,000 Democrats who might soon be clamoring for a daily paper supporting their own party. Such a paper might well have given the Colonel's publications a run for their money.

Fortunately, or unfortunately, he had the news service tied up. Checkmating any move for a sincere Democratic paper, by a simple double-jointed journalistic twist, he changed the name of his paper to the New Deal Reporter. His other paper, the Pottsville Evening Republican, will remain unchanged in its policies.

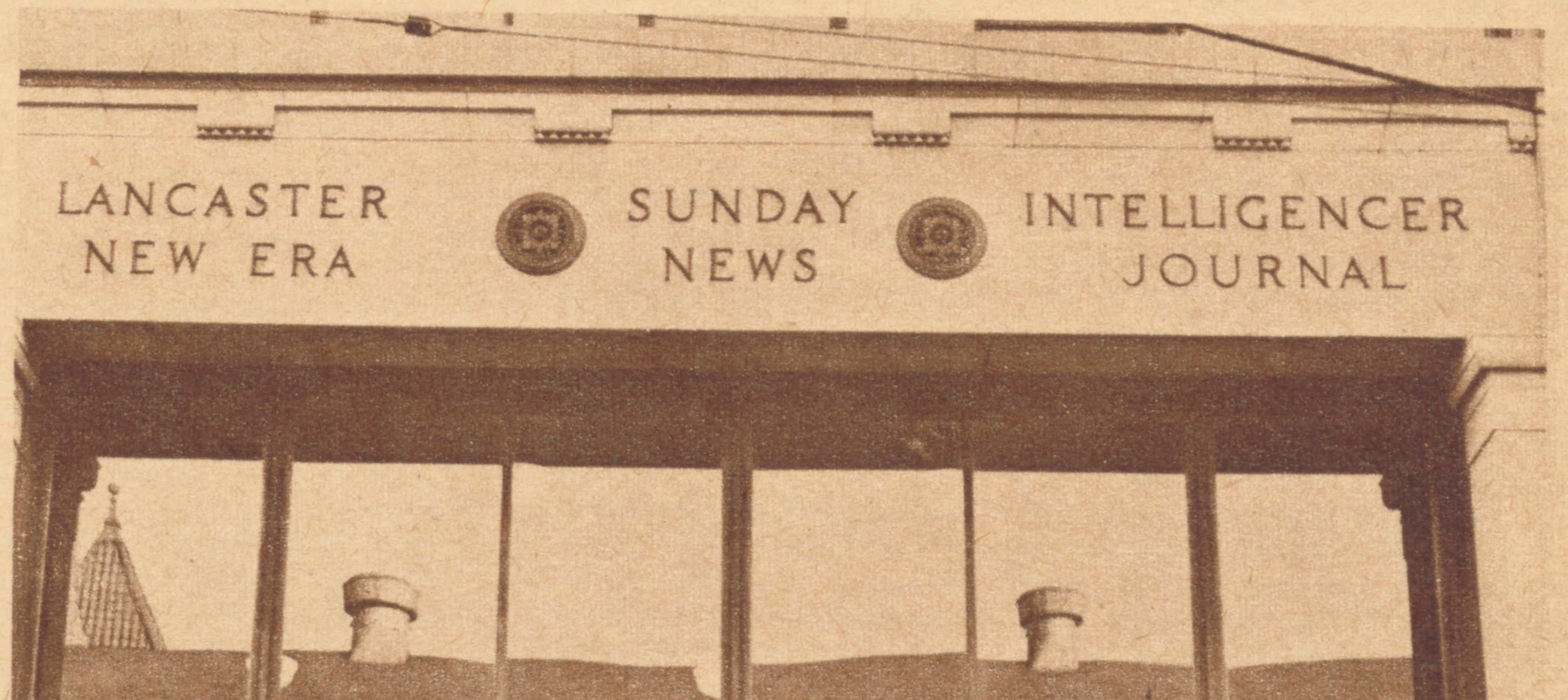
Not the first person to employ the two-faced journalistic method is Pottsville's enterprising Publisher Zerbey. In Lancaster Colonel J. Hale Steinman has employed the same tactics for a number of years with great success. Owner of extensive real estate holdings, of a coal mine, interested in the Hamilton Watch Company, Col. Steinman and J. F. Steinman publish the Lancaster New Era (Republican), the Intelligencer-Journal (Democratic) and the Sunday News (Independent). Apparently the practice is highly successful, for recently Lancaster County, where stand Col. Steinman's $100,000 Lancaster mansion, went Republican while Pennsylvania, as a whole was going Democratic. The County's hybred journalism no doubt had influential bearing on the situation.

It has been axiomatic with certain publishers that the level of public intelligence is low. Those who belong to this school apparently have not considered that the public is capable of intelli-

(Continued on Page 14)



Above is Col. Zerbey's Pottsville publishing plant. Note that the New Deal Reporter is being lettered on the window.



But Col. Steinman goes Publisher Zerbey one better, with not two, but three papers, each of a different political stripe.

Transport

(Continued from Page 12)

a $100,000 cash dividend plus a stock dividend of $995,000. Equitable Real Estate Co. charges Pittsburgh Motor Coach Co. $15,000 a year rental for its garage space in Lexington Ave.

Another inter-company charge that Pittsburgh Motor Coach Co. pays is some $100,000 yearly that it hands over to Pittsburgh Railways Co. for shuttle trolley service between buslines, transfers, and other such items.

Meantime Philadelphia Co.'s President Phillips, pressed by public opinion and by Pittsburgh's Council, came out with a proposal, if a bus compromise were reached, to reorganize Pittsburgh Railways with new capital. It could accomplish that by throwing the company into a 77b receivership reorganization, under which the old profit-eating underliers would be sloughed off. The company would surrender its perpetual franchises and get a new one under which the city could take over the system at any time for a fair price.

An obvious fact from any study of traction utilities is that underliers are the excuse, if not the only cause, for poor service and high rates. Last month in Philadelphia a United States District Court judge handed down a momentous decision regarding the complicated underlying structure of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company which might well make the owners of Pittsburgh Railways Co.'s underlying franchises ponder their course.

Philadelphia's traction troubles have dated back for years, but they came to a head in March, 1936, when the Union Traction Company, as spokesmen for all the maze of underlying companies on whose old franchises the PRT operates, went into court and petitioned for payment of $3,500,000 from the PRT's treasury. Later, Union Traction Company raised the claim to $5,000,000. At that time a plan for reorganization of the PRT and its underliers was in Federal Court.

The court warned that the underlying companies were not entitled to interim payments unless proof was furnished that the PRT was actually using their properties, nor unless it was stated how much of these properties it was using. The Union Traction Co. offered no proof. Judge George A. Welsh then refused their petition. Later when the underliers came back into court, claiming that they were ready to offer the proof, Judge Welsh turned the whole matter over for hearings before Special Master David Bachman.

Into the battle there immediately entered a bewildering number of forces. The PRT was fighting; the City of Philadelphia, which has claims on the PRT and which wants a 5c fare, was involved. The Public Service Commission had a spoon in the broth. And finally, the State entered the case through Attorney General Charles J. Margiotti.

In his report, Special Master Bachman recommended:

1) That the underliers, holders of the original franchises, were sole owners of the PRT system, including the properties for which PRT investors had paid $70,000,000.

2) That the underliers were entitled to everything the PRT had earned since the case went into Federal Court.

3) That the underliers can claim all the PRT earns while it is undergoing reorganization.

4) That the 999-year lease made in 1902, which entitled underliers to yearly rentals of $9,000,000, was valid.

5) That the Union Traction Company owns the Market Street Subway because it guaranteed a $10,000,000 loan needed for its construction. (It is generally conceded to be worth $25,000,000.)

All other parties involved objected to the report. On November 6, Judge Welsh handed down his important decision. In its 19 pages he rejected the Bachman report, and adjudged that the PRT was owner of all the transit system except what remains of the old "horse car lines" which make up about 10 percent of the present system. If the Bachman report were true, he said, the PRT stockholders would be "woefully and pitifully undone." He denied the Union Traction Co.'s right to the Market Street subway. He agreed with Louis Levanthal of the Public Service Commission that the signing of the 999-year leases in 1902, when PRT and underliers had interlocking directorates, was a matter for suspicion. "We admire the dexterity and art of the leases but cannot sanction them," said Judge Welsh.

In short, Judge Welsh decided that the underliers own nothing except the horse car lines they leased to PRT in 1902; that the PRT was the rightful and legal owner of the modern system which its investors built and paid for; and that the Federal Court will not approve any reorganization unless the rights of the PRT and the city are considered on a par with the underliers!

"Judge Welsh's decision makes it possible to condemn the whole system," crowed Philadelphia's Mayor S. Davis Wilson, "put on buses and allow the universal 5c fare."

Meantime still in court were Attorney General Margiotti's quo warranto (by what warrant) proceedings to determine whether the underlying companies could continue to exercise their corporate rights after they had ceased to carry out the duties for which they were chartered.

"The bookkeeping system, used by the underliers," said he, "permitted the companies to liquidate themselves and yet continue charging the public for properties which were long since fully paid for. There is reasonable ground for the conclusion that the so-called leases were executed or performed merely as a cloak for manipulation and fraud."

His suit would seek to have the underliers wiped out for non-use.

Acres of Diamonds

(Continued from page 11)

through the mail at the office of the State Geologic Survey for analysis.

Every resident of the state is familiar with the parts that coal and iron, oil and gas play in Pennsylvania's industrial life, but few know that at one time this commonwealth had the only nickel mine being worked on the North American continent.

Located at the cryptically-named town of Gap, in Lancaster County, the mine ran full blast from 1863 to 1868.

Discovered in 1732, the mine was originally worked for copper, but was abandoned a number of years later.

Upon the discovery that the metallic sulphide ore was nickel bearing, it was then re-opened more than a century later.

Lead has been mined in a number of Pennsylvania counties, and as early as Revolutionary days it was dug from the earth at Birmingham, in Blair County, to be used for making bullets for colonial troops.

Hundreds of thousands of tons of lime are dug from almost every part of the state every year for distribution to the markets of the world.

The extensiveness of lime deposits within our boundaries is so great that there are quarries and kilns in all but 13 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

The first Portland Cement plant in the nation was operating at Wampum, Pa., in 1875, and in the Lehigh District in the eastern part of the state are large deposits of rock possessing all the ingredients necessary to the production of this useful and universally used material.

Almost half of the slate plants of the country are located in Pennsylvania, and the state also contributes materially to the nation's supply of sandstone and bluestone.

Among precious stones found here, according to a Smithsonian Institution report, are both amethyst and garnet. Of the latter, the report says:

"Fine large gem crystals occur in the pegmatites in Delaware County at Avondale, Leiperville and elsewhere, and in Chester and Philadelphia Counties."

And at Stroudsburg quartz suitable for gems has been found.

So if you have never dug anything out of Pennsylvania soil more romantic than a potato, you have a thrill coming to you if your neighborhood is one of the many in the state where Mother Nature has planted minerals.

You may not uncover gold or gems—but you may come across that figurative acre of diamonds in which the treasures to be found are knowledge and enjoyment, health and relaxation from the cares of the day.

The New Two-Faced Journalism

(Continued from Page 13)

gent reflection upon the subject of Janus-faced journalism.

Such spot-changing tactics immediately pose the question of the integrity of the press.

Aside from the question of whether such an overnight conversion is a sincere reversal of thought and belief, or a simple cash-hunting conversion, it brings up this question:

Have newspapers wandered so far from the free-press duty of printing the news impartially that it is required to run one paper as a propaganda sheet for one party, and another newspaper as a propaganda sheet for another party?

Is news ceasing to lose its integrity as news? If readers must buy two papers, one to present one side of the case, another to present the other, how can they have any faith in either of the news stories presented?

Finally, if two daily newspapers owned by the same individual champion opposite causes, what assurance can be had that the press will not become as venal as the press of France, where an editor's opinions and his news coloration can be bought for a song? What assurance does the reader have that the newspaper will not change its spots after—or before—the next election?

These questions are sure to be pondered by a public disgusted with the news coloration of the press during the days of the Presidential campaign. Their minds are not likely to be eased by the fact that editorial policies are being put on and taken off like a suit of clothes.

Mothers and Babies

(Continued from Page 6)

and child health, to be administered by States. $150,000 of this grant went to Pennsylvania. Late this summer Dr. MacBride-Dexter, with Chairman Dr. Ralph M. Tyson of the Medical Society's Pediatrics Education Committee and Chairman Dr. James S. Taylor of the Maternity Welfare Committee mapped a series of institutes on obstetrics and pediatrics. Held one day a week for six weeks each in the State's various counties, in conjunction with county medical societies, the institutes were lectures delivered by medicos from Pitt, Penn, Temple and Jefferson Medical Schools, and the Women's Medical College. They drew hundreds of doctors eager to improve their knowledge of obstetrical technique and pre-natal and post-natal care.

Last week Dr. MacBride-Dexter expanded the Health Department's program by setting up a Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, with the promise that a topnotch physician would be its Director. Dividing the State into three sections, it will place a woman doctor in charge of field work in each section. They will make a survey of the pre-natal, post-natal and well baby clinics of the State. The three will also have charge of inspecting the midwives of the State, and also of school medical inspections. Maternal and child health will become an expanded function of the State Health Department.

Thus will Social Security funds, granted to the State Secretary of Health, help make safer an experience which the average woman undergoes three times during her life, and which for the baby is the greatest strain it will ever undergo during the rest of its life—the hours of birth. Said Dr. MacBride-Dexter last week: "The Social Security money has enabled us to work out a real educational program to lessen mortalities of childbirth."

The New Deal Senators

(Continued from Page 9)

years, and was Special Counsel for the Lake City for five more years. A graduate of Princeton University, class of 1908, he was admitted to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and the courts of Erie in 1913. In his youth he was on the faculty of Central State Normal School, at Lock Haven, Pa., where he taught Latin and coached football. He also taught Latin and mathematics for three years at Central High School in Erie.

C. Hale Sipe. Residence, Freeport. His district (41st) includes Armstrong and Butler Counties. He defeated Peter Graff III.

Author, lawyer, teacher, scholar, Senator Sipe, 46, is descendent of a Pennsylvania family that settled in this country in 1654. His farm home in Armstrong County has come down from father to son since 1795. Graduate of Thiel College, which several years ago conferred on him a degree of Doctor of Letters, Senator Sipe has written many a book on the history and lore of Pennsylvania. Before being admitted to the Butler Bar in 1909, he met his bills by teaching school and by working in the steel mills. During the World War he worked in the Internal Revenue office in Pittsburgh.

Frank W. Ruth. Residence, Bernville. His district (11th) includes

No newcomer to the Senate, Ruth sat there briefly after being elected to serve the unexpired term of the late Senator James E. Norton. To take that post he resigned from the House where he was majority floor leader in the 1935 session. Born 48 years ago on a farm in Bucks County, he was successively a hired hand, a tobacco stripper, a factory foreman and a labor leader before his election as pastor of the Bernville Reformed Charge in 1918, a position which he still holds. He is a graduate of the Central Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church, at Dayton, O. At the age of 20, Senator Ruth joined the Cigarmakers Union of Quakertown, which led to his being named President of the Central Labor Union of Quakertown.

Robert Lee Jacobs. Residence, Carlisle. His district, (31st) includes Cumberland, Juniata, Mifflin and Perry Counties. He defeated Leon C. Prince.

Only 25 years on this planet, Senator Jacobs has no close rival for the title of "Baby of the Senate". Born in Carlisle, he went to high school there and thence to Dickinson College where among his teachers was Dr. Leon C. Prince, whom he defeated at the polls. He studied law at Dickinson, finishing in 1935 and being admitted to the Cumberland County Bar in December of the same year. He shares a law office with his father, T. Ralph Jacobs.

Anthony J. Di Silvestro. Residence, Philadelphia. His district (1) includes 1st, 26th, 36th, 39th and 48th Wards. He defeated Joseph C. Trainer.

Senator Di Silvestro, 32, is known to Pennsylvania Italians as the editor of "La Libera Parola," Italian language newspaper, and for his work in the Order of Sons of Italy in Pennsylvania, founded by his father. At the age of 25 he was chosen Grand Orator of the organization, which has a membership of 30,000 in the state. Born in South Philadelphia, Di Silvestro was educated at the James Wilson Public School, Central High School and Temple University, graduating from the last named institution in 1925 as a pharmacist.

John H. Dent. Residence, Jeanette. His district (39th) includes Westmoreland County. He defeated Benjamin H. Thompson.

Senator Dent was a member of the Democratic House during the last session when he sponsored, along with Paul C. Moomaw, of Franklin County, the unemployment insurance bill designed to allow the residents of this state the benefits of the Security Act. It was killed by the forces of reaction. Senator Dent is a former borough councilman in Jeanette. He is a member of the Rubber Workers Union, the B. P. O. E., the Moose and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He served four years with an aviation unit of the Marines.

John J. Haluska. Residence, Patton.

From the job of councilman in the Borough of Patton, Senator Haluska has moved with the greatest of ease into successive positions as Burgess of Patton, member of the General Assembly and now into the Senate. He was born 34 years ago in Cannonsburg, but moved to Patton at an early age. His business is wholesale automotive parts and the manufacturing of storage batteries. He is on the board of directors of the hospital at Spangler, Pa., and is director and vice president of the First National Bank of Patton.

SO THEY CALLED IT...

In 1750 a group of pioneers with more ambition than regard for the rights of the Indians set up a colony in what is now Fulton County.

The Redskins of that territory complained to the government that the whites were violating boundary agreements made in a treaty.

So agents were dispatched to oust the settlers and burn their homes.

The village that later grew there is still known as Burnt Cabins.

In 1884 a postoffice was established in Washington County.

The community it served was promptly labelled Eighty-four.

In Center County is Snow Shoe, believed to have got its name from Indian snowshoes found in the vicinity by pioneer settlers.

Names make news, and the stories behind the names of Pennsylvania towns, cities and counties make the study of their origin an interesting and educational pastime.

Romance and adventure, tragedy and whimsy are behind almost every name that appears too prosaic when printed on a map of the state.

Two of the counties of Pennsylvania are named for women—women from as strikingly different walks of life as any writer of fiction could devise.

Montour County is so called in memory of Madame Montour, born in 1682 of an Indian mother and a half-breed father.

A genteel, intellectual, diplomatic person, she was one of the outstanding characters of her day, sitting in at treaties between the whites and Indians, acting as interpreter and arbiter, retaining the respect and

(Continued on Page 15)

WE THE PEOPLE INC., 1835 N. THIRD STREET • HARRISBURG • PENNSYLVANIA PLEASE ENTER MY SUBSCRIPTION FOR ONE YEAR. I ENCLOSE ONE DOLLAR

Check Money Order Cash TO PAY FOR SAME.

NAME______________________________

ADDRESS____________________________

L E T T E R S

Error

To the Editors:

I have a copy of your paper, "We the People," issued under date of November 7, 1936, and circulated in the State of Pennsylvania, including the County of Allegheny. In that paper you published an article entitled "Gas, Guns and Greed." In that article you make two statements affecting me which are untrue.

One of them is the statement made on page 15 that I am a board member of both Railway Audit & Inspection Company and Federal Laboratories, Inc. I am not now, and never have been a board member of Railway Audit & Inspection Company, nor a stockholder therein.

Another untrue statement is made on pages 5 and 15 of that issue that "Railway Audit controls Federal Laboratories." I personally know that the very great majority of the stock of Federal Laboratories is owned by persons who have no interest whatever in Railway Audit & Inspection Company. The stock records of Federal Laboratories show none of its stock owned by Railway Audit & Inspection Company and I know of no stock therein so owned.

The heading of that article and other parts thereof, together with the general tenor and inuendo, render these untrue statements defamatory and libelous to me. I presume that you have not deliberately or even willingly tried to injure me, with whom you or your paper have no quarrel.

I trust you will be careful not to repeat any untrue statements which refer directly or indirectly to me.

R. G. BOSTWICK.

Thorp, Bostwick, Reed & Armstrong, Pittsburgh, Pa.

We the People erred in stating that Attorney Bostwick was a member of the Railway Audit & Inspection board, acknowledges its error. We the People attempts to keep its columns free from error, hopes to make its letter a self-correcting medium.

In April, 1936, the National Labor Relations Board reported that President Grove of Railway Audit was a member of Federal Laboratories board. C. Eugene Ivey of the Atlanta plant of Railway Audit, the LaFollette Committee hearings showed, said that the company served as a representative of Federal Laboratories, which he described as being in the business of selling "police equipment."—The Editors.

Fourth Class School Districts

To the Editors:

I have been reading your paper for quite some time and admire your stand on social legislation and your liberal views. The principles for which your paper stands prompt me to write to you relative to securing aid in obtaining legislation which shall pay to rural school teachers a living wage.

At present rural school teachers in fourth class districts are struggling along on a yearly salary of eight hundred ($800) dollars, less their payment to the State Retirement Fund, which in most cases is about $3 to $4 (three to four dollars). This is an average weekly wage of about fifteen dollars.

Fifteen dollars a week is barely a subsistence wage. Yet rural school teachers are expected to dress well, pay rent, buy food and go to school in order to keep certified, in addition to supporting their families on this amount.

In comparing working conditions of fourth class rural teachers to those of first, second and third class districts, one can say without hesitation that fourth class district teachers work much harder, as their schools are usually of the one-room type and contain from 25 to 35 pupils, made up of a mixture of grades from one to eight. The teachers in other districts have only one grade at a time to teach. Yet their remuneration is much greater than ours, the maximum wage paid in third class districts being $1400 (fourteen hundred dollars).

The Pennsylvania State Educational Association has not paid much attention to our plight, and don't seem to champion our cause.

Why don't you publish an article containing the facts in order that our problem might be brought to the attention of the public and our legislators?

MARTIN DHIZANSKY.

Patton, Pa.

What do other Fourth Class District teachers have to say? Let them write to their legislators to call to legislative attention their $800-per-year plight.—The Editors.

To the Editors:

For the American language as it should be spoken, give me the speeches of John L. Lewis.

For color on the platform and high-powered delivery, I'll take another helping of the same.

In this shaggy-maned representative of labor, I see a relentless force that cannot be stopped because he will not be stopped.

Lewis has the real laboring men of the country behind him, because they see in his character, the honesty and the tenacity that are needed to weld them into an organization large enough and powerful enough to meet big business on even terms.

With Lewis up in front, labor is on the march—a peace time army headed for victory.

And the sooner those astoundingly thick-headed steel barons and their mothy-minded associates realize this, the better off they will be.

STEEL WORKER.

Pittsburgh's Block House

To the Editors:

If I remember rightly, that fearless editor, Mr. Paul Block, remarked some time before the November landslide that the building in which his Pittsburgh newspaper is printed is so old and dilapidated that he would soon have to build or buy another one.

At the time, however, Mr. Block added that he did not intend to invest the money until he was certain that the future of the country would be guaranteed by the election of one Alf M. Landon, of Kansas.

It would be interesting to hear from Mr. Block just what he intends to do in the matter now that the awful fate which he feared has been visited on the nation.

It's remotely possible that, reclining in the luxurious surroundings of his own New York office, he may not get too many headaches worrying over the 100 or so men and women who work in the building that he himself condemned.

Then, too, he may figure that with times being so bad that skilled workers are hard to get he may have to pay too much to have a new and suitable building erected.

Mr. Block, of course, has talked his way out of more stupid situations than this one. And if he can explain why he gave former New York Mayor Jimmie Walker $40,000 as a "gift," maybe he can explain what he's going to do about his own personal housing situation in Pittsburgh, and why.

C. E. A.

Happy Holiday

To the Editors.

We had a happy Thanksgiving, thank you.

There was turkey on the table and laughter in the air.

It wasn't that way two years ago, or three or four years ago, either.

I don't like to think of those Thanksgivings. I don't like to think of the feigned gaiety or the skimpy meal that was our holiday fare.

I was out of work and on relief then. But I'm not now. I've got a job and I've got that contentment that comes to a man who has the ability and opportunity to work and a fine family to share in the fruits of his labors.

I'm firmly convinced that my worst years and the worst years of this nation are definitely over, and that the course our government is pursuing, under the guidance of a man who has already earned immortality, will bring us into an era of prosperity that every man will have a chance to share.

AN AMERICAN.

What! No Dog Collar?

To the Editors:

I've been waiting for days now, and still it hasn't arrived.

And I don't know whom to write to about it—John D. M. Hamilton or William Randolph Hearst.

Here it is almost a week since I signed my Social Security blank, and still no sign of that "dog collar" that the two gentlemen mentioned in the above paragraph promised me.

It looked so nice, too, in that picture in the paper—a thin, shiny chain to go around the neck, and a bright metal disc to hang over my bosom.

William R. and John D. M. said it would take away my name and give me, instead, just a number. "Regimentation," I think they called it.

In it I believe they saw an omen of what they figured would happen when the Revolution came.

Johnny and Willie didn't like the idea, but when a fellow can get a shiny new ornament like that for nothing, I say he's crazy if he doesn't accept it.

So if mine doesn't come soon, I'm going to write them and ask what the heck is the idea of building up a guy's expectations like that if they don't really have inside dope.

But maybe I better wait until after Christmas, in case Uncle Sam has decided to mail me mine then for a present.

Hopefully,

SAM TURNER.

Deficiency Judgments

To the Editors:

I have read with considerable interest your article on deficiency judgments in your latest edition, especially so inasmuch as I have litigation pending along the same line.

Please advise me whether or not there has been an appeal filed to the United States Supreme Court, which possibility you mentioned in this article.

Very truly yours,

WILBUR J. BAER.

New Castle, Pa.

To the knowledge of the State Department of Justice, no such appeal has been filed. Interested in the case, the Department hopes to see it carried to the Higher Court.—The Editors.

For a Fair Fare

To the Editors:

That was a fighting editorial you had on the attempt of the people of Pittsburgh to get a decent break from the selfish interests that operate the buses in this city.

The twenty-five cent fare we pay here is so exhorbitant that people from other cities, who often get the same kind of ride for a nickel, cannot believe that Pittsburghers would allow themselves to submit to such brazen banditry on the part of the motor coach company.

Now that public interest is aroused in the matter, I hope you will help keep it aroused by continuing to print periodically articles on the same line until the fare is brought down to a rate that will allow the average worker to ride to his job without having to go without lunch because the bus company emptied his pocket.

MICHAEL O'BRIEN.

Mortgage Trouble

To the Editors:

As I have a home and have a mortgage against it would you tell me where I could arrange things to get a loan so I can pay my mortgage off?

JOSEPH W. LYTTLE.

Nanty Glo, Penna.

Readers with the same problem Mortgagee Lyttle faces are advised to contact one of the Federal Housing Administration offices, located in the state's urban areas, or to write direct to FHA headquarters in Washington, D. C.

No News Is . . .?

To the Editors:

Whoever said "What you don't know won't hurt you" is probably dead.

But if he was alive I'd send him a subscription to your magazine.

For years the people of this state have been getting a dirty deal from a robber gang that made Jesse James look like a chicken thief.

They took what they wanted because there was no one to stop them. Even while building their gang headquarters (the capitol) at Harrisburg they found time to scoop a couple million out of the public purse.

They had the courts and the elective offices, the co-operation of industry's leaders and most of the newspapers. Though judging by what happened on November 3rd, they could have got along just as well without the papers.

What happened in Harrisburg while this mob was in power is still pretty much unknown to the men and women who paid the money that kept them there.

Such articles as the one you printed on the Workmen's Compensation Law bring that hidden history to light.

They show the rotten deal the worker got when the old gang held the cards. Such articles will help keep that old gang out in the cold where they belong.

And they'll help keep things on the level down there at Harrisburg by showing the people how they may be victimized if they don't keep an eye on the government officials they elect.

As long as the voters don't know what's going on in the offices of the men they elect, they can expect to be hurt and hurt plenty, in spite of what the author of the quotation said.

I think you can prevent that by printing more articles on the activities of the old gang and by keeping an eye on the men who succeeded them.

JOHN THOMAS.

So They Called It...

(Continued from Page 14)

admiration of both her own people and the early settlers up to her death in the Indian village which once stood on the site of Montoursville in Lycoming County.

Huntingdon County, on the other hand, takes its name from one of the aristocratic ladies of a past century, Selina Hastings, Countess of Huntingdon.

An old tavern is the source of name that has bewildered many a traveler passing through Lancaster County—Bird-in-Hand.

In early days the village inn displayed a sign bearing the quotation: "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

The original tavern housed the original surveyors of that district in 1734, and a hotel by the same name still stands on the same property, the fourth to occupy the site.

A number of places in the state got their names in the same way, such as Blue Ball, Lancaster County, and King of Prussia, Montgomery County. Both were named after old inns, as were Lionville, in Chester County, and Red Lion, in York County.

The interesting name of Fallentimber, in Cambria County, is believed to have originated from a great windfall that swept through that area many decades ago, leaving a path of toppled trees in its wake.

Townville, in Crawford County, sounds like a tautological error, but the community is really named after Noah Town, who founded it in 1824.

Echo, in Armstrong County, gets its name from the sound phenomenon that results from the three ravines that meet near the town.

In Montour County the place where stage coach horses once were exchanged today is known as Exchange.

And it was not the dancing propensities of its residents, but the wild hops that grew there that gave Hop Bottom, in Susquehanna County, its name.

Manayunk is a word that is a bit startling when first heard. It's a corruption of a Delaware Indian term, "mene-iunk." And it means "where we go to drink."

Shippensburg bears one of the most illustrious names in the history of Pennsylvania. It was called after Edward Shippen, once mayor of Philadelphia, grandson of the first mayor of the Quaker City, and grandfather of the ill-fated Peggy Shippen, wife of Benedict Arnold.

Fayette County by name honors the memory of that romantic character who won the undying gratitude of the American colonies in Revolutionary times—the Marquis de la Fayette.

And another Frenchman, Louis the Dauphin, son of Louis XVI, of France, was honored in the naming of Dauphin County, in which the state capital is located.

Harrisburg, named after its founder, John Harris, once had its name officially changed to Louisburg, after King Louis, but the citizens refused to accept the change, and it was eventually dropped.

Two renowned members of the British Parliament, Col. John Wilkes and Col. Isaac Barre, had their names joined in the labelling of the Luzerne County city.

Its neighbor, Scranton, had seven different names before its present one became official in 1851. It is named after Joseph H. Scranton and two cousins.

Mauch Chunk comes from the Indian "machk tschunk," meaning "bear mountain," the name the aborigines gave a hill across the Lehigh River from the present city.

Pittsburgh is named after the noted English statesman, Sir William Pitt, but the name of the county in which it is located, Allegheny, is a puzzler for etymologists, most of whom, however, connect it with an ancient Indian tribe, the Allegewi.

Most school children know that Philadelphia was named from the Greek noun meaning "brotherly love."

But there are many Pennsylvanians who still believe their state is named after William Penn, its founder. They're wrong. It's named after Penn's father, Sir William Penn, famed English admiral.

A team of horses pulling a wagon full of nitroglycerine back in 1883 stalled while crossing a railroad track in Warren County. Along came a train and up went the nitro.

In those days such a wagon load was called a torpedo. And that today is the name of the town standing near the site of the accident.

In Schuylkill County we have Rough and Ready, apparently borrowed from a mining town that arose in Nevada County, California, in the days of the Forty-niners.

That interesting group of German colonists, the Harmony Society, provided names for Harmony, in Butler County, and Economy, in Beaver County.

And presidents of the United States gave their names to four counties — Washington, Jefferson, Adams and Monroe.

VOX POPULI...

The Voice of the People spoke on November 3.

It said that America wanted Franklin Delano Roosevelt to renew his lease on the White House.

It approved his policies.

A man from Mars who only knew what he read in the papers would have been amazed at this result.

For 80 percent of the press opposed the re-election of President Roosevelt.

They printed distorted news, faked-up propaganda and false photographs in an attempt to undermine him.

They inveighed against him in dictated editorials.

And the people crowded to the polls to vote for Roosevelt . . . to vote opposite from what their newspapers advised.

They had lost confidence in the integrity of their press.

In Pennsylvania only three papers of more than 100,000 circulation supported Roosevelt . . . printing the truth about him and his opponents.

Two were great metropolitan dailies.

One was "We the People".

The new year will bring a new session of Legislature, in which the battle for progressive legislation will be waged anew.

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